

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

Property Name: Snow Hill Historic District Inventory Number: WO-186
Address: _____ Historic district: ☒ yes ☐ no
City: Snow Hill Zip Code: 21863 County: Worcester
USGS Quadrangle(s): Snow Hill
Property Owner: _____ Tax Account ID Number: _____
Tax Map Parcel Number(s): _____ Tax Map Number: 200
Project: TEA-21 DOE Agency: Maryland Historical Trust
Agency Prepared By: Maryland Historical Trust
Preparer's Name: Scott Whipple Date Prepared: 6/20/2004
Documentation is presented in: WO-186 and WO-9, 103-104, 109, 114
Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: ☒ Eligibility recommended ☐ Eligibility not recommended
Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G
Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:
Name of the District/Property: _____
Inventory Number: _____ Eligible: ☐ yes ☐ no Listed: ☐ yes ☐ no
Site visit by MHT Staf ☒ yes ☐ no Name: Scott Whipple Date: _____

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

Description:

Snow Hill, located at the intersection of Maryland routes 12 and 113 on the southeastern side of the Pocomoke River, is in the geographic center of Worcester County. The town, surrounded by productive agricultural land, has historically been an important center for the shipment and processing of local produce and emerged as a base of light industry and food processing in the 19th century.

The town is laid out in a grid. The main residential area south of Market Street is made up of broad avenues and large blocks divided by narrower connecting streets. North of Market Street the blocks are smaller and more irregular. The commercial center is located around Bank, Pearl, Green and Washington streets.

The Snow Hill Historic District includes the twelve streets platted in 1792 by virtue of an Act of the Assembly of the State of Maryland. The plat, filed for record in the Clerk's office in Worcester County 14 March 1792, established the grid pattern upon which the town's streets continue to be based. In addition to the commercial precinct noted above, the district includes a

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility not recommended ☐
Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G
MHT Comments:

Scott Whipple
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Peter Kurtze
Reviewer, National Register Program

Sunday, June 20, 2004

Date

6/23/2004
Date

residential precinct is formed by east-west running Federal, Martin, and two blocks of Ironshire streets, primary north-south streets Ross, Morris, Church, and Washington, and the smaller, one-block long streets (originally called alleys) Gunby, Division, Mumford, Snow.

Along Market Street and north to the river, house lots tend to be small and narrow, with detached dwellings set close to the streets. South of Market Street, houses and lots tend to be larger and houses are set back farther. Numerous houses date to between 1800-1860, a period of great expansion in Snow Hill. Two-story frame houses, in a variety of styles and forms of the period, predominate. South of Federal Street and east of Collins Street, the district is defined by houses reflecting a variety of late-19th and early 20th century vernacular and pattern-book styles. Common lot size, frame construction, and two- or two-and-a-half story dwellings serve to unify this diverse collection of resources.

The commercial district, rebuilt after the fire of 1893 burned much of the precinct, is dominated by a row of two-story brick commercial buildings on Green Street between Bank Street and Washington Avenue. Other notable commercial buildings include the three-bay wide Old Commercial Bank (WO-109) on Pearl Street and the First National Bank Building (WO-115), a single-story, brick structure with Queen Anne details.

The Worcester County Courthouse (WO-104), which dates to 1894-95, is a prominent neoclassical courthouse, designed by prominent Baltimore architect Jackson C. Gott after Independence Hall in Philadelphia. Located at the corner of Market and Washington streets, the courthouse occupies a position of importance straddling the commercial and residential sides of the district. The two-story brick structure, surmounted with a tall clock tower, has later expansions on each side and to the rear, but retains its integrity.

Significance:

Snow Hill is a rural town on the lower Eastern Shore with a well-preserved core of Federal and Victorian dwellings, public buildings, and commercial structures. The community was made the seat of the new county when Worcester County was carved from Somerset County in 1742. The town plan of Snow Hill, with its wide, tree-lined residential avenues contrasting with the narrow streets of its commercial district, is one of the more noteworthy on the Eastern Shore. Created through an Act of Provincial Assembly, the town originally followed a grid pattern with the courthouse centered among 100 lots. A number of plantations, now subsumed by 19th and 20th century development, ring the town.

Located on the south side of the Pocomoke River, the site of Snow Hill was once used as a landing place for Indians. Snow Hill, founded in 1642 by English settlers from the "Snow Hill" division of London, received its first charter on 26 October 1686. John Seymour, Royal Governor of Maryland, designated the town a port of entry, declaring it a "Port where all Ships and Vessels trading into this Province shall unload and put on Shoare [sic] Negroes, Wares, Goods, Merchandizes, and Commodities whatsoever" ("Worcester County, Maryland: The Land of Opportunity," p. 28). In all of the Pocomoke River drainage, only Snow Hill and Rehobeth (Delaware) held this distinction.

Snow Hill's present charter was enacted in 1894, although there were several in the period between 1686 and 1894. The current charter was enacted after the fire of 7 August 1893 destroyed the entire business district, after which all businesses were rebuilt in masonry. The courthouse was burned in the 1893 fire and was replaced at that time. A municipal building was erected in 1908, with fire station on the first floor and civic offices above. The town-owned waterworks was installed in 1896, and expanded and improved in 1908. The town of Snow Hill purchased its lighting system in 1924, buying the Snow Hill Electric Light and Power

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ☒ X Eligibility not recommended ☐

Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

MHT Comments:

Scott Whipple
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Sunday, June 20, 2004
Date

Peter Kurtze
Reviewer, National Register Program

Date

Company plant. By 1926, all of the town's streets were paved and Snow Hill had three automobile dealerships and garages, and three banks. At this time, local industry included the planing mill and box shoo factory; fertilizer factory, shirt factory, barrel factory, butter dish and basket factory, and multiple canning factories. Rail and water transportation served Snow Hill, along with a state highway to Salisbury. Pennsylvania Railroad, with ample freight facilities. Snow Hill prospered as county seat and center of commerce.

Snow Hill is also significant for the role religious institutions played. The Episcopal Church played an important role in the early settlement of Snow Hill, and All Hallows Episcopal Church (WO-9), a National Register-listed Anglican form structure with Flemish bond and glazed brick checkerboard patterned decorative work, dates to 1748-54 is among the town's earliest extant buildings. The Makemie Memorial Presbyterian Church (WO-103), a High Gothic style ecclesiastic structure designed by Philadelphia architect Isaac Pursell in 1888-89, was the first regularly organized Presbyterian Church in America.

Few major intrusions detract from the integrity of the historic district, which retains the feel of a 19th century rural town and county seat. The Snow Hill Historic District is significant under criteria A and C as a well-preserved Eastern Shore county seat and market town, exhibiting a variety of notable domestic, ecclesiastical, and commercial resources dating from the mid-18th through the first-half of the twentieth centuries.

[Extracted from HO-186, prepared by P. Kurtze, and "Worcester County Preservation Plan," prepared by P. Touart.]

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEWEligibility recommended ☒ XEligibility not recommended ☐Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

MHT Comments:

Scott Whipple_____
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services_____
Peter Kurtze_____
Reviewer, National Register Program_____
Sunday, June 20, 2004_____
Date_____
Date

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WO-186

1. Name of Property

(indicate preferred name)

historic

other

Snow Hill Historic District

2. Location

street and number

not for publication

city, town

Snow Hill

vicinity

county

Worcester

3. Owner of Property

(give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name

Multiple

street and number

telephone

city, town

state

zip code

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Worcester County Clerk of Court

liber multiple folio

city, town

Snow Hill

tax map 200-1

tax parcel

tax ID number

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

Contributing Resource in National Register District

Contributing Resource in Local Historic District

☒ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register

Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register

Recorded by HABS/HAER

Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT

Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	263
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government	263
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Noncontributing
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	55 buildings
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion	23 sites
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social	structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	78 Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
			43

7. Description

Inventory No. WO-186

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Snow Hill, the seat of Wocerster County, is located on the southeastern shore of the Pokomoke River at the intersection of Maryland routes 12 and 113. Laid out in a grid, principal streets include Washington, Church, and Morris streets running north-south, and Market, Federal and Martin streets running east-west. Several secondary streets fill in the grid. The main residential area south of Market Street is made up of broad avenues and large blocks divided by narrower connecting streets. North of Market Street the blocks are smaller and less regular. The business precinct is for the most part confined to area between the river and north of Market Street along Green, Pearl, and Bank streets. Snow Hill is an important, intact Eastern Shore community with strong associations to the Federal and Victorian periods.

Within the Snow Hill Historic District's commercial precinct, nearly all the buildings are attached, occupying most if not all of their lots, and are set forward, directly on the sidewalk. Residential lots north of Market Street tend to be small and narrow, with space only for a house and back yard as houses are set forward on their lots. Despite the narrow lots, houses are detached. South of Market Street, both the lots and their associated houses tend to be larger, with deeper set-backs, ample lawns and gardens. There is little open public space within the historic district.

Few modern intrusions detract from the overall significance of the historic district, although some blocks have non-contributing twentieth century in-fill buildings and some of the contributing resources have been altered with modern building materials. Notwithstanding these intrusions and alterations, Snow Hill continues to give the impression of a nineteenth-century rural town and county seat, and is not disturbed by modern development.

Most of the contributing resources in the Snow Hill Historic District date to the nineteenth century, with a strong representation of buildings constructed between 1800 and 1860, and the several styles of the nineteenth century dictate the town's architectural character. Of those of Snow Hill's houses individually listed in the Maryland Inventory of History Properties, eighty percent date to the nineteenth century. Dwellings are predominately frame and two-stories in height, while masonry construction tends to be reserved primarily for commercial, public, and ecclesiastical buildings. Most dwellings were constructed on a uniform scale, although that scale varies somewhat both by period and by block. Notwithstanding this uniformity a few houses, such as the Hargis House (WO-93) and the John Walter Smith House (WO-127), are notable for their larger size. Similarly, there is also great uniformity in the level of expression of decoration of most of the contributing residential buildings, even between the Federal and Victorian periods, with Victorian dwellings tending to emulate the more toned-down nature of the Federal era. The result is a gentle blending of architectural styles and forms into a cohesive historic district that reflects a continuum of town settlement across three centuries.

Two of the district's larger houses date to the last decades of the nineteenth century. Hargis House (WO-93), referenced above, is a large and fine three-story, frame Italianate dwelling at the intersection of Federal and Division streets. The main mass is three-bays wide and two-bays deep, with a two-story, two-bay wing off set on the rear elevation. Paired double-hung windows topped by Italianate over-cornice are placed in each bay. A tall lantern is placed at the apex of a nearly flat roof.

The Governor John Walter Smith House (WO-127), at 104 South Church Street, is an expansive two-and-a-half story dwelling built in the Queen Anne style in 1889-1890 after the design of Baltimore architect Jackson C. Gott. Supported on a raised five-course common brick foundation, the house is sheathed in weatherboards and decorative fish-scale shingles and is covered with a broad, hipped roof with a number of towers and bays. A Tuscan-columned porch wraps across the primary (northeast) elevation and around each side of the house. A three-story polygonal tower, capped by a bell-shaped roof, rises at the northeast corner of the house, while at the southeast corner a shorter tower rises. A larger gable, dormers, and eyebrow-shaped vents ennoble the roof. A two-and-a-half story service wing, with a clipped gable roof, extends from the rear elevation.

Despite over a century of history preceding the Revolutionary War, all of Snow Hill's domestic buildings post-date the beginning of the war. The Samuel Gunn House (WO-100), which dates to circa 1780, is an early survivor. Prominent merchant Samuel Gunn raised a fine two-story, side-hall, double-pile, frame dwelling at 200 W. Federal Street along what could be characterized as Snow Hill's premier residential street. This house, executed in a popular townhouse plan on a brick foundation, is three-bays wide and a

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similar number deep with a gable roof. A large chimney separates a two-story, one-bay wing from the main mass. The house is clad in clapboard, with pilasters at each side ending at the cornice, which is decorated with a series of dentils and end boards.

A neighboring house, Chanceford (WO-1), dates to the early 1790s and is an excellent expression of the Federal period. This two-story, temple-front, transverse hall brick house is an unusual masonry example. Stuccoed in the nineteenth century, this prominent dwelling sits at 209 W. Federal Street. The double-pile main block is supported by a raised brick foundation. The main (northwest) elevation is symmetrical, with a central entrance and flanking windows forming five bays. Twelve-over-twelve sash windows light the first floor, while twelve-over-eight sash lights the second. The main block of the house is extended to the rear by a two-story hyphen that connects a slightly taller two-story, three-bay kitchen wing, a stepped configuration common regionally during the period.

While early or large examples are found, much more representative of the district is the P. D. Cottingham House on North Church Street. This two-and-a-half story, central hall, frame dwelling, constructed circa 1873, is distinguished by a cross gable and Victorian sawnwork. The house sits on a low brick foundation and is topped by a steeply pitched gable roof. The principal elevation is symmetrical and three-bays wide, with a shed-roof porch sheltering the first story. A central entrance is set in a slightly projecting bay.

The commercial precinct was reconstructed in masonry after the fire of 1893. Notable buildings include the Old Commercial Bank (WO-109) at 105 Pearl Street. The single-story, three-bay brick building, constructed in 1897, has a modified pyramidal roof and an entrance notable for its pyramidal spire. The east (primary) and south elevations are laid in pressed stretcher bond, while the north and west facades are of seven-course common bond. The east elevation has three bays: a entrance at the side and adjacent paired single-pain sash windows with round arched colored glass transoms. Window bays are recessed slightly from the wall surface. A rusticated stone stringcourse stretches across at the level of the window header.

The First National Bank (WO-115), at the corner of Market and Bank streets, is a single-story brick, Queen Anne structure notable for its decorative elements. The building is three-bays wide and four-bays deep with a circular entrance tower on its southeast corner. Doors and windows are treated with red sandstone sills and lintels. Above the windows' lintels are semicircular arched transoms. Flemish bond with recessed headers create a basket-weave effect above the lintels. A molded brick cornice sits beneath a hipped roof.

Across Market Street from the commercial district sits the Worcester County Courthouse (WO-104), which dates to 1894-95. Prominent Baltimore architect Jackson C. Gott designed the prominent neoclassical courthouse after Independence Hall in Philadelphia. Located at the corner of Market and Washington streets, the courthouse occupies a position of importance straddling the commercial and residential sides of the district. The two-story brick structure, surmounted with a tall clock tower, has later expansions on each side and to the rear, but retains its integrity.

All Hallows Episcopal Church (WO-9) at 101 N. Church Street, dating to 1748-54, is Snow Hill's earliest extant ecclesiastic structure and possibly the earliest surviving structure of any kind within the town. The simple, one-story brick building is laid in Flemish bond with glazed headers in its five-bay facades. The building has a gable roof with a deep cove cornice. The entrance is in the southwest gable end (it was formerly in the center bays of the side of the church). The semicircular arches of gauged brick with molded keystones and imposts are unique in Worcester County. Two brick buttresses reinforce the southwestern corner, and one reinforces the west elevation and one the east.

8. Significance

Inventory No. WO-186

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____

Specific dates 1742-1954

Architect/Builder Various

Construction dates Various

Evaluation for:

☒ National Register

☒ Maryland Register

☐ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Snow Hill, a rural town on Maryland's lower Eastern Shore, is significant for its role as a governmental and commercial center, transportation hub, and religious focal point. Snow Hill is also significant for its well-preserved core of Federal and Victorian architecture representing the public, commercial, ecclesiastical, and domestic realms. Three centuries of architectural expression gives voice to the important role Snow Hill has played on the Eastern Shore.

Located on the south side of the Pocomoke River, the site of Snow Hill was once used as a landing place for Indians. In 1642, the first white settlers to arrive in the area choose the name Snow Hill, after the "Snow Hill" division of London from which they had originated. Col. William Stevens, a planter of some prominence in what was then Somerset County, in 1676 patented a tract of land that includes that on which Snow Hill stands. Stevens, a successful land speculator who grew wealthy through a mix of agriculture, merchandising and land speculation, sold his "Snow Hill" tract to Henry Bishop in 1678 in return for 15,000 pounds of tobacco.¹

Three years after the Maryland Assembly's 1683 passage of "An Act for the Advancement of Trade," which directed that five new towns be founded in Somerset County, 100 acres of the "Snow Hill" tract were purchased from the Bishop family for the creation of Snow Hill. Snow Hill received its first charter on 26 October 1686, and in 1694 John Seymour, Royal Governor of Maryland, designated the town a port of entry, declaring it a "Port where all Ships and Vessels trading into this Province shall unload and put on Shoare [sic] Negroes, Wares, Goods, Merchandizes, and Commodities whatsoever" ("Worcester County, Maryland: The Land of Opportunity," p. 28). In all of the Pocomoke River drainage, only Snow Hill and Rehobeth (Delaware) held this distinction. Snow Hill capitalized on this designation, remaining the principal center of regional trade through the end of the eighteenth century.

Snow Hill was made the seat of the new county when Worcester County was carved from Somerset County in 1742. The town was surveyed at that time, and again between 1792 and 1794. Created through an Act of Provincial Assembly, the town originally followed a grid pattern with the courthouse centered among 100 lots. The twelve original streets form the basis for the historic district. A collection of plantations, now subsumed by 19th and 20th century development and in some cases by the expanded borders of the town itself, encircle the Snow Hill. The town plan of Snow Hill, with its wide, tree-lined residential avenues contrasting with the narrow streets of its commercial district, is one of the more noteworthy on the Eastern Shore.

Snow Hill gained importance as shipping hub, as well as a waypoint for those traveling north-south on the Delmarva peninsula. Tobacco, grain, lumber produced locally in the fertile fields and forests surrounding Snow Hill were exported through Snow Hill, while manufactured goods were imported through the town. Snow Hill was also a transshipment point for goods traveling along the eastern seaboard to the Chesapeake Bay, as well as central point for trade with the West Indies: rum, molasses, and sugar came in, while local products made the return voyage. As a result, numerous commercial ventures were formed to capitalize on Snow Hill's

¹ This statement of significance borrows heavily from research prepared by Peter Kurtze ("Snow Hill Historic District," 1981) and Paul Touart's "Worcester County Preservation Plan" (1992).

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trade economy, and many merchants became leading citizens. One, Scottish merchant Robert Martin, was so successful that by 1721 had purchased most of the land surrounding Snow Hill and all of the lots in town not already sold. Martin's descendants continued his influence, and played an important role in Snow Hill's early development.

With the advent of steamboats in the nineteenth century, Snow Hill's prosperity continued. However, the arrival in Snow Hill of the railroad in 1872 caused the importance of river travel declined precipitously. Snow Hill's fortunes, however, were unaffected as Snow Hill ultimately became an important stop on the north-south peninsular route. The railroad led to the broadening of Snow Hill's economy. New industries were introduced, some of which continued to support the town throughout much of the twentieth century. Lumber grew in importance during the nineteenth century, and the food processing industry developed. William T. Hargis opened a fruit drying factory in the 1860s and by 1895 there were two planing mills, a box factory, grist mill, waving mill, whip factory and a canning factory.

Snow Hill's present charter was enacted in 1894, although there were several in the period between 1686 and 1894. The current charter was enacted after the fire of 7 August 1893 destroyed the entire business district, after which all businesses were rebuilt in masonry. The courthouse was burned in the 1893 fire and was replaced at that time. A municipal building was erected in 1908, with a fire station on the first floor and civic offices above. The town-owned waterworks was installed in 1896, and expanded and improved in 1908. The town of Snow Hill purchased its lighting system in 1924, buying the Snow Hill Electric Light and Power Company plant. By 1926, all of the town's streets were paved and Snow Hill had three automobile dealerships and garages, and three banks. At that time, local industry included the planing mill and box shook factory; fertilizer factory, shirt factory, barrel factory, butter dish and basket factory, and multiple canning factories. Rail and water transportation served Snow Hill, along with a state highway to Salisbury. Pennsylvania Railroad had ample freight facilities. Snow Hill prospered as county seat and center of commerce.

Snow Hill is also significant for the role religious institutions played. The Episcopal Church played an important role in the early settlement of Snow Hill, while the Makemie Memorial Presbyterian Church was the first regularly organized Presbyterian Church in America.

Few major intrusions detract from the integrity of the historic district, which retains the feel of a 19th century rural town and county seat. The Snow Hill Historic District is significant under criteria A and C as a well-preserved Eastern Shore county seat and market town, exhibiting a variety of notable domestic, ecclesiastical, social and commercial resources dating from the mid-18th through the first-half of the twentieth centuries.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. WO-186

Clark, Charles B. *The Eastern Shore of Maryland and Virginia. Vol. II.* New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Company, Inc., 1950.

Historic Sites Inventory, Vol. 2. The Maryland Historical Trust: Annapolis, MD

"Historic Snow Hill". Snow Hill Bicentennial Commission: Snow Hill, MD, 1976.

Kurtze, Peter. "Snow Hill Historic District" (unpublished), 1981.

Manakee, Harold R. *Maryland in the Civil War.* Maryland Historical Society: Baltimore, MD, 1961.

"Maryland's Historic Worcester County". Worcester County Bicentennial Commission: Pokomoke City, MD, 1976.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 137.94
Acreage of historical setting 137.94
Quadrangle name Snow Hill

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary of the Snow Hill Historic District is indicated by the black line on the accompanying map. The district occupies the most of the twelve streets platted in 1792 by virtue of an Act of the Assembly of the State of Maryland. The district's north boundary is formed by the intersection of the railroad right-of-way from its intersection with Market Street (MD route 113) west to the Pokomoke River, then by the river to Washington Street, south to Willow Street, west to the river, along the river bank to the border of Byrd Park, and along Market Street to its intersection with Federal Street. The district boundary follows Federal Street east to Ross, where it turns south to Martin, then follows various property lines south and east. The southern boundary is formed by the rear of lots on Ironshire and Martin streets east to Washington Street, where it follows the rear lot line north to Martin Street. There it follows Martin Street one block east to Collins Street, turning north for one block before moving west for one block along the rear lot lines of the houses on Washington Street. The district line turns east at Market Street, which it follows back to railroad right-of-way crossing at Market Street.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Scott D. Whipple, Administrator, Local Preservation Programs		
organization	Maryland Historical Trust	date	6/30/2004
street & number	100 Community Place	telephone	410-514-7600
city or town	Crownsville	state	MD 21032

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

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Torrence, Clayton. *Old Somerset on the Eastern Shore of Maryland*. Regional Publishing Company: Baltimore, MD, 1966.

Touart, Paul. "Historic and Architectural Resources of Worcester County, Maryland". National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form. Maryland Historical Trust Library, Crownsville, MD, 1992.

Touart, Paul. "Worcester County Historic Sites Inventory Final Report". Maryland Historical Trust Library, Crownsville, MD. 1990.

Touart, Paul. "Worcester County Preservation Plan". (Unpublished), 1991.

Truitt, Charles J. *Breadbasket of the Revolution*. Historical Books, Inc.: Salisbury, MD, 1975.

White, Frank F. *Governors of Maryland, 1777-1970*. State of Maryland, Hall of Records: Annapolis, MD, 1970.

Contributing & Noncontributing Resources

District Name: Snow Hill Historic District

Inventory Number: WO-186

Address	Contributing Resource?	Map	Parcel	Block	Lot	Inventory No.
		0200	0051			
		0200	0053			
		0200	0058			
	Contributing	0200	0060			
	Contributing	0200	0067			
	Contributing	0200	0091			
		0200	0099			
	Contributing	0200	0106			
		0200	0107			
		0200	0117			
		0200	0117			
		0200	0323		2	
		0200	0326			
		0200	0369			
		0200	0387			
	Contributing	0200	0416			
	Contributing	0200	0577			
	Noncontributing	0200	0583			
	Noncontributing	0200	0586			
	Contributing	0200	0605			
	Contributing	0200	0786			
	Contributing	0200	0790			
		0200	0848			
		0200	0850			
	Contributing	0200	0852			
	Noncontributing	0201	0247			
		0201	0248			
103 BANK ST	Contributing	0200	0097			WO-246
100 CHURCH ST	Contributing	0200	0418			
101 CHURCH ST	Contributing	0200	0571			
101 CHURCH ST	Contributing	0200	0596			WO-9
102 CHURCH ST	Contributing	0200	0415			

Contributing & Noncontributing Resources

District Name: Snow Hill Historic District

Inventory Number: WO-186

Address	Contributing Resource?	Map	Parcel	Block	Lot	Inventory No.
102 CHURCH ST	Contributing	0200	0419			
103 CHURCH ST	Contributing	0200	0570			
103 CHURCH ST	Contributing	0200	0597			
104 CHURCH ST	Contributing	0200	0414			
104 CHURCH ST	Contributing	0200	0420			WO-127
105 CHURCH ST	Contributing	0200	0569			
106 CHURCH ST	Contributing	0200	0413			
107 CHURCH ST	Contributing	0200	0568			
107 CHURCH ST	Contributing	0200	0599			
108 CHURCH ST	Contributing	0200	0412			
110 CHURCH ST	Contributing	0200	0411			
200 CHURCH ST	Contributing	0200	0417			
200 CHURCH ST	Contributing	0201	0421			
201 CHURCH ST	Contributing	0200	0120			
202 CHURCH ST	Contributing	0201	0422			
204 CHURCH ST	Noncontributing	0200	0122			
204 CHURCH ST	Contributing	0201	0423			
205 CHURCH ST	Contributing	0200	0121			
206 CHURCH ST	Contributing	0201	0424			
300 CHURCH ST	Contributing	0201	0425			
302 CHURCH ST	Contributing	0201	0426			
105 N CHURCH ST	Contributing	0200	0598			WO-311
112 N CHURCH ST	Contributing	0200	0410			WO-312
201 COMMERCE ST	Contributing	0200	0114			
203 COMMERCE ST	Contributing	0200	0113			
205 COMMERCE ST	Contributing	0200	0112			
207 COMMERCE ST	Contributing	0200	0111			
400 DIGHTON AVE	Contributing	0201	0144			
402 DIGHTON AVE	Contributing	0201	0145			
404 DIGHTON AVE	Noncontributing	0201	0146			
406 DIGHTON AVE	Contributing	0201	0147			
101 DIVISION ST	Noncontributing	0200	0370			

Contributing & Noncontributing Resources

District Name: Snow Hill Historic District

Inventory Number: WO-186

Address	Contributing Resource?	Map	Parcel	Block	Lot	Inventory No.
102 DIVISION ST	Noncontributing	0200	0372			
103 DIVISION ST	Noncontributing	0200	0368			
100 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0200	0789			
101 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0200	0611			WO-300
103 FEDERAL ST		0200	0576			
104 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0200	0590			
105 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0200	0575			WO-301
106 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0200	0591			
108 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0200	0592			
109 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0200	0573			WO-89
110 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0200	0593			WO-303
111 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0200	0572			
112 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0200	0594			
114 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0200	0595			
202 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0200	0382			
203 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0200	0381			
204 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0200	0383			
205 FEDERAL ST		0200	0380			
206 FEDERAL ST	Noncontributing	0200	0384			
207 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0200	0379			
208 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0200	0385			
209 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0200	0378			WO-1
211 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0200	0377			
212 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0200	0395			
214 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0200	0396			
216 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0200	0397			
218 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0200	0398			
220 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0200	0399			
300 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0200	0309			WO-94
301 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0200	0308			WO-95
302 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0200	0310			WO-308
303 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0200	0307			

Contributing & Noncontributing Resources

District Name: Snow Hill Historic District

Inventory Number: WO-186

Address	Contributing Resource?	Map	Parcel	Block	Lot	Inventory No.
304 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0200	0311			WO-309
305 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0200	0306			
400 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0201	0256			
401 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0201	0255			WO-96
402 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0201	0257			
403 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0201	0254			
404 FEDERAL ST		0201	0258			
406 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0201	0259			
408 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0201	0260			
410 FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0201	0261			
107 W FEDERAL ST	Contributing	0200	0574			WO-302
102 FRANKLIN ST	Contributing	0200	0578			
103 FRANKLIN ST	Contributing	0200	0589			
104 FRANKLIN ST	Contributing	0200	0579			
105 FRANKLIN ST	Contributing	0200	0588			
106 FRANKLIN ST	Contributing	0200	0580			
107 FRANKLIN ST	Contributing	0200	0587			
110 FRANKLIN ST	Noncontributing	0200	0582			
111 FRANKLIN ST	Noncontributing	0200	0585			
113 FRANKLIN ST	Noncontributing	0200	0584			
115 FRANKLIN ST	Noncontributing	0200	0604			
100 GREEN ST	Contributing	0200	0074			
101 GREEN ST	Contributing	0200	0073			
102 GREEN ST	Contributing	0200	0075			
104 GREEN ST	Contributing	0200	0076			
106 GREEN ST	Contributing	0200	0048			
106 GREEN ST	Noncontributing	0200	0077			
107 GREEN ST	Contributing	0200	0072			
108 GREEN ST	Contributing	0200	0078			WO-108
110 GREEN ST	Contributing	0200	0079			WO-252
112 GREEN ST	Contributing	0200	0080			WO-253
116 GREEN ST	Contributing	0200	0081			WO-255

Contributing & Noncontributing Resources

District Name: Snow Hill Historic District

Inventory Number: WO-186

Address	Contributing Resource?	Map	Parcel	Block	Lot	Inventory No.
116 GREEN ST	Contributing	0200	0082			WO-255
120 GREEN ST	Contributing	0200	0083			
200 W GREEN ST	Contributing	0200	0096			
212 W GREEN ST	Contributing	0200	0105			
300 W GREEN ST	Contributing	0200	0115			
306 W GREEN ST	Contributing	0200	0116			
310 W GREEN ST	Contributing	0200	0118			
312 W GREEN ST	Contributing	0200	0119			
103 GUNBY ST	Contributing	0200	0394			
105 GUNBY ST	Contributing	0200	0393			
107 GUNBY ST	Contributing	0200	0392			
109 GUNBY ST	Noncontributing	0200	0388			
110 GUNBY ST	Contributing	0200	0386			
200 IRONSHIRE ST	Noncontributing	0201	0343			
202 IRONSHIRE ST	Noncontributing	0201	0344			
203 IRONSHIRE ST	Noncontributing	0201	0342			
204 IRONSHIRE ST	Noncontributing	0201	0345			
205 IRONSHIRE ST	Contributing	0201	0341		14	
206 IRONSHIRE ST	Contributing	0201	0346			
207 IRONSHIRE ST	Contributing	0201	0340			WO-112
209 IRONSHIRE ST	Noncontributing	0201	0339			
210 IRONSHIRE ST	Contributing	0201	0352			
211 IRONSHIRE ST	Noncontributing	0201	0338			
213 IRONSHIRE ST	Contributing	0201	0337			
101 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0603			
102 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0853			
102 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0068			WO-114
103 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0602			WO-103
104 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0854			
105 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0601			
106 MARKET ST	Noncontributing	0200	0088			
106 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0855			WO-106

Contributing & Noncontributing Resources

District Name: Snow Hill Historic District

Inventory Number: WO-186

Address	Contributing Resource?	Map	Parcel	Block	Lot	Inventory No.
107 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0600			
107 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0049			WO-263
110 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0098			WO-115
114 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0100			WO-257
116 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0101			WO-102
118 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0102			WO-101
120 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0103			
201 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0409			
201 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0047			WO-107
202 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0124			
203 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0046			
203 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0408			
204 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0125			
205 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0045			
206 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0126			
207 MARKET ST	Noncontributing	0200	0044			
207 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0407			
208 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0137			WO-99
209 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0043			
209 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0406			WO-98
210 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0138			
211 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0405			
212 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0139			
213 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0404			
214 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0140			
300 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0141			
301 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0041			
301 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0323		1	
302 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0143			WO-271
303 MARKET ST	Noncontributing	0200	0322			
305 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0321			
307 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0320			

Contributing & Noncontributing Resources

District Name: Snow Hill Historic District

Inventory Number: WO-186

Address	Contributing Resource?	Map	Parcel	Block	Lot	Inventory No.
309 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0319			
311 MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0318			
403 MARKET ST	Contributing	0201	0280			
407 MARKET ST	Noncontributing	0201	0279			
409 MARKET ST	Contributing	0201	0278			
411 MARKET ST		0201	0277			
412 MARKET ST	Noncontributing	0201	0262			
413 MARKET ST	Contributing	0201	0276			
415 MARKET ST	Noncontributing	0201	0275			
417 MARKET ST	Contributing	0201	0274			
419 MARKET ST	Contributing	0201	0266			
421 MARKET ST	Contributing	0201	0265			
423 MARKET ST	Noncontributing	0201	0264			
425 MARKET ST	Contributing	0201	0263			
200 W MARKET ST	Contributing	0200	0123			WO-100
102 MARTIN ST	Contributing	0200	0562			
103 MARTIN ST	Noncontributing	0200	0561			
104 MARTIN ST		0200	0563			
105 MARTIN ST	Contributing	0200	0560			
105 MARTIN ST	Contributing	0200	0783			
107 MARTIN ST	Contributing	0200	0559			
108 MARTIN ST	Contributing	0200	0564			
109 MARTIN ST	Contributing	0200	0558			
110 MARTIN ST	Contributing	0200	0565			
111 MARTIN ST	Noncontributing	0200	0557			
112 MARTIN ST	Contributing	0200	0566			
113 MARTIN ST	Noncontributing	0200	0556			
114 MARTIN ST	Noncontributing	0200	0567			
115 MARTIN ST	Noncontributing	0200	0555			
117 MARTIN ST	Contributing	0200	0554			
202 MARTIN ST	Contributing	0200	0364			
203 MARTIN ST	Contributing	0201	0363			

Contributing & Noncontributing Resources

District Name: Snow Hill Historic District

Inventory Number: WO-186

Address	Contributing Resource?	Map	Parcel	Block	Lot	Inventory No.
204 MARTIN ST	Contributing	0200	0365			
205 MARTIN ST	Contributing	0201	0362			
206 MARTIN ST	Contributing	0200	0366			
207 MARTIN ST	Contributing	0201	0361			
208 MARTIN ST	Contributing	0200	0367			
209 MARTIN ST	Contributing	0201	0360			
210 MARTIN ST	Contributing	0200	0373			
211 MARTIN ST	Contributing	0201	0358			
212 MARTIN ST	Noncontributing	0200	0374			
215 MARTIN ST	Contributing	0201	0357			
119 W MARTIN ST	Contributing	0200	0553			
100 MASON ST	Noncontributing	0201	0271			
102 MASON ST	Noncontributing	0201	0272			WO-442
103 MASON ST	Contributing	0201	0270			
104 MASON ST	Noncontributing	0201	0273			
105 MASON ST	Noncontributing	0201	0269			
102 MORRIS ST	Contributing	0200	0327			
102 MORRIS ST	Contributing	0200	0400			
103 MORRIS ST	Contributing	0200	0325			
103 MORRIS ST	Contributing	0200	0376			
104 MORRIS ST	Contributing	0200	0401			
105 MORRIS ST	Contributing	0200	0375			
108 MORRIS ST	Noncontributing	0200	0403			
202 MORRIS ST	Contributing	0201	0328			
203 MORRIS ST	Contributing	0201	0356			
204 MORRIS ST	Contributing	0201	0329			
205 MORRIS ST	Contributing	0201	0355		1	
206 MORRIS ST	Contributing	0201	0330			
207 MORRIS ST	Contributing	0201	0355		2	
208 MORRIS ST	Contributing	0201	0331			
209 MORRIS ST	Contributing	0201	0353			
210 MORRIS ST	Noncontributing	0201	0332			

Contributing & Noncontributing Resources

District Name: Snow Hill Historic District

Inventory Number: WO-186

Address	Contributing Resource?	Map	Parcel	Block	Lot	Inventory No.
212 MORRIS ST	Contributing	0201	0333			
105 N MORRIS ST	Noncontributing	0200	0324			
106 N MORRIS ST	Contributing	0200	0402			
200 MUMFORD ST	Contributing	0201	0359			
202 MUMFORD ST	Contributing	0201	0349			
203 MUMFORD ST	Contributing	0201	0348			
204 MUMFORD ST	Contributing	0201	0350			
205 MUMFORD ST	Noncontributing	0201	0347			
206 MUMFORD ST	Contributing	0201	0351			
104 PEARL ST	Contributing	0200	0070			
105 PEARL ST	Contributing	0200	0087			WO-109
107 PEARL ST	Contributing	0200	0086			
109 PEARL ST	Contributing	0200	0085			
110 PEARL ST	Contributing	0200	0071			
100 W PEARL ST	Contributing	0200	0069			
201 PETITT ST	Noncontributing	0200	0132			
202 PETITT ST	Contributing	0200	0133			
203 PETITT ST	Noncontributing	0200	0131			
204 PETITT ST		0200	0134			
205 PETITT ST		0200	0130			
206 PETITT ST		0200	0135			
207 PETITT ST		0200	0129			
209 PETITT ST		0200	0128			
213 PETTIT ST	Contributing	0200	0127			
102 ROSS ST	Noncontributing	0200	0312			
103 ROSS ST	Contributing	0201	0286			
104 ROSS ST	Noncontributing	0200	0313			
105 ROSS ST	Contributing	0201	0285			
106 ROSS ST	Noncontributing	0200	0314			
107 ROSS ST	Contributing	0201	0284			
108 ROSS ST	Noncontributing	0200	0316			
109 ROSS ST	Noncontributing	0201	0283			

Contributing & Noncontributing Resources

District Name: Snow Hill Historic District

Inventory Number: WO-186

Address	Contributing Resource?	Map	Parcel	Block	Lot	Inventory No.
110 ROSS ST	Contributing	0200	0317			
111 ROSS ST	Contributing	0201	0282			
113 ROSS ST	Contributing	0201	0281			
205 SHIP YARD ALY	Contributing	0200	0142			
202 SNOW ST	Contributing	0200	0544			
203 SNOW ST	Contributing	0200	0543			
100 SPENCES ST	Contributing	0200	0054			
100 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0788			
101 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0612			
102 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0787			
102 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0843			
103 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0610			
103 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0613			
104 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0844			
105 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0609			
105 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0614			
106 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0785			WO-299
107 WASHINGTON ST	Noncontributing	0200	0608			
107 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0615			
108 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0846			
109 WASHINGTON ST	Noncontributing	0200	0607			
109 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0616			
110 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0784			
110 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0847			
111 WASHINGTON ST	Noncontributing	0200	0606			
111 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0617			
114 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0849			
116 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0851			
200 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0724			
200 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0050			WO-262
201 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0618			
202 WASHINGTON ST	Noncontributing	0200	0723			

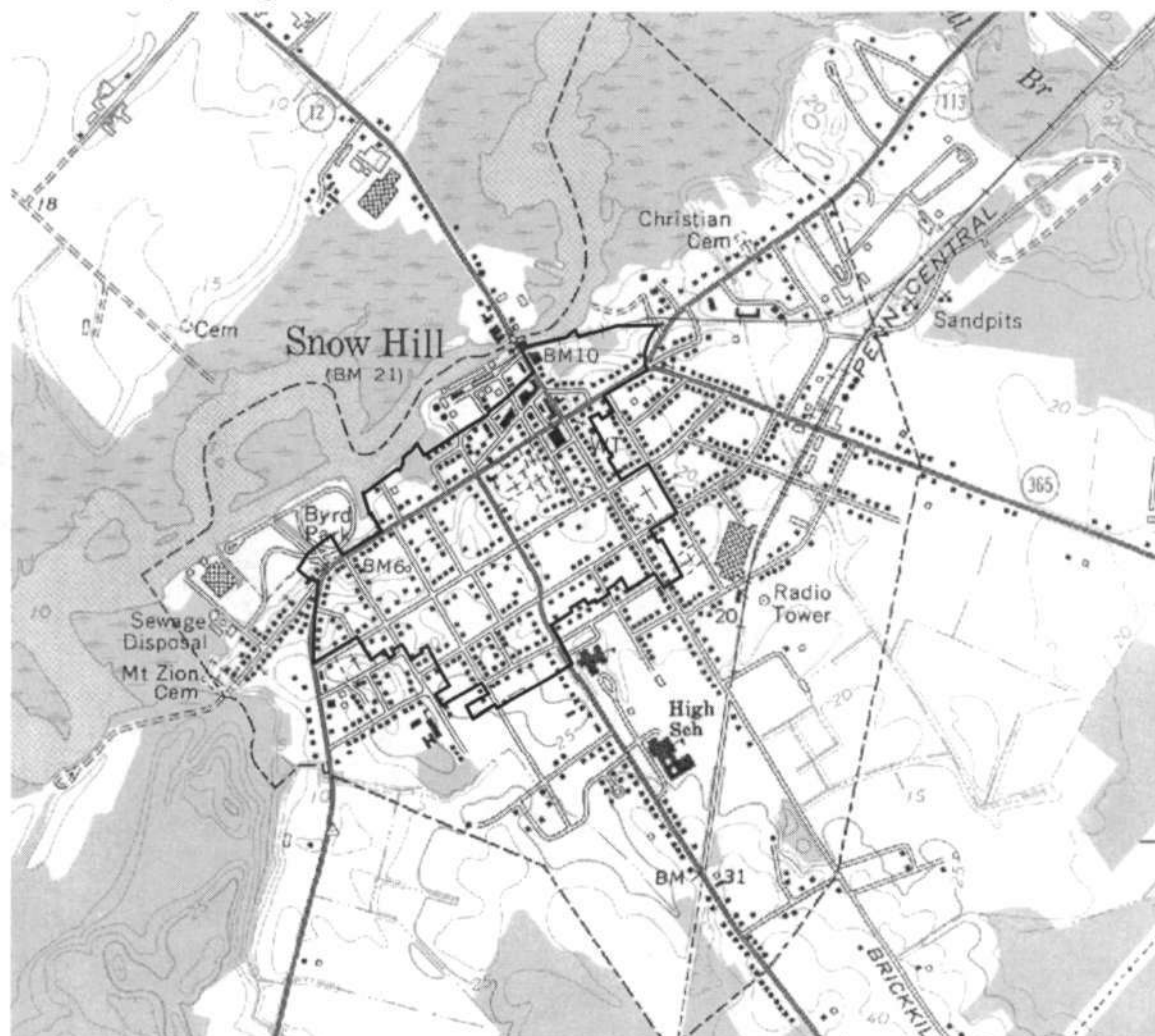
Contributing & Noncontributing Resources

District Name: Snow Hill Historic District

Inventory Number: WO-186

Address	Contributing Resource?	Map	Parcel	Block	Lot	Inventory No.
203 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0619			
204 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0052			
204 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0722			
205 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0620			
206 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0721			WO-305
207 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0621			
208 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0720			
209 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0066			
210 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0719			
211 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0064			WO-258
211 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0065			WO-258
300 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0055			WO-248
301 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0063			
302 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0056			
303 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0062			
306 WASHINGTON ST	Noncontributing	0200	0057			
310 WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0059			
100 N WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0842			
106 N WASHINGTON ST	Contributing	0200	0845			
202 WILLOW ST	Contributing	0200	0089			
301 WILLOW ST	Contributing	0200	0110			
307 WILLOW ST	Noncontributing	0200	0109			
309 WILLOW ST	Noncontributing	0200	0108			

WO-186
Snow Hill Historic District
Snow Hill Quadrangle





WO-186

Green Street

Snow Hill Historic District

Worcester County MD

Scott Whipple

6/2/04

MDSHPO

North Side, facing East

1 of 4



W0-186

100 Block Washington Street
Snow Hill Historic District
Worcester County, MD

Scott Whipple

6/2/2004

MD SHPO

East Side, facing NE

#2 of 4



W0-186

200-204 Church Street

Snow Hill Historic District

Worcester County, MD

Scott Whipple

6/2/2004

MD SHPO

facing south

#3 of 4



W0-186

205 West Federal Street

Snow Hill Historic District

Worcester County, MD

Scott Whipple

6/2/2004

MD SHPO

Facing South

4 of 4

E.O. 11593

DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY NOTIFICATION

National Register of Historic Places

Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

WO-186

Name of property: Snow Hill Historic District

Location: Snow Hill, Worcester County

State: MD

Request submitted by: HUD/CD Ronald D. Waters

Date received: 10/21/81

Additional information received:

Opinion of the State Historic Preservation Officer:

☒ **Eligible**

☐ **Not Eligible**

☐ **No Response**

Comments:

The Secretary of the Interior has determined that this property is:

☒ **Eligible**

Applicable criteria:

☐ **Not Eligible**

Comments:

36 CFR Part 63.3
Determination

☐ **Documentation insufficient**

(Please see accompanying sheet explaining additional materials required)

for Susan D. Hanson
Keeper of the National Register
Determined **Eligible**

Date: OCTOBER 27, 1981

(submitted for) DOE 10/81

SNOW HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT

Summary Statement of Significance

Snow Hill is significant as a well-preserved Eastern Shore county seat and market town, exhibiting a variety of notable domestic, ecclesiastical, and commercial resources dating from the mid-eighteenth through the early nineteenth centuries.

submitted for DOE 10/81

W0-186

SNOW HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT
Summary Statement of Significance

Snow Hill is significant as a well-preserved Eastern Shore county seat and market town, exhibiting a variety of notable domestic, ecclesiastical, and commercial resources dating from the mid-eighteenth through the early ~~nineteenth~~ twentieth centuries.

SNOW HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT

Description

Located on the southeastern side of the Pocomoke River in Worcester County, the town of Snow Hill, Maryland, can be reached from the north or south by MD 12, and from the east or west by US 113. The town is surrounded by a productive agricultural area, and has historically been an important center for the shipment of local produce to markets on the western shore and beyond. From early years, the inhabitants of Snow Hill supplemented this commercial base with the production of lumber, and during the nineteenth century food processing industries arose and flourished. Many of the mill and cannery buildings - some long abandoned and others still in use - can be seen on the town's outskirts and along the river.

Laid out in what is essentially a grid, Snow Hill's principal streets are Washington Street, Church Street, and Morris Street running from north to south, and Market Street, Federal Street, and Martin Street running from east to west. None of the streets appear to have been widened to accommodate increased traffic. The main residential area south of Market Street is made up of broad avenues and large blocks divided here and there by more narrow connecting streets. North of Market Street the blocks are smaller and more irregular, with many of the streets being little more than alleys. Most of Snow Hill's businesses can be found on narrow Bank and Pearl Streets, and on Green Street, which forms two strong diagonals meeting at Washington Street.

Approaching from the north, the transition from farmland to town is particularly abrupt; to the east and west there has been considerable industrial development, while residential development has spread along the town's perimeter south of the river. In the Historic District, the amount of open space varies, with Market Street acting as an approximate dividing

line. Along this street and north to the river, house lots tend to be small, with room for little more than a house and a long, narrow backyard. Commercial buildings are almost invariably attached, although this is seldom true of dwellings. South of Market Street, both houses and lots tend to be larger, with a deeper set-back; here can be found many spacious lawns and gardens, and a number of still-undeveloped lots. There is a large municipal park on the western edge of Snow Hill, but aside from the grounds of the Worcester County Courthouse there is little public space within the limits of the historic district.

Few major intrusions mar the general appearance of the historic part of Snow Hill. The new Worcester County Public Library, encountered soon after one enters the town from the north, is a large contemporary building, compatible in scale and materials with the surrounding commercial buildings. A few painted metal facades and glaring signs intrude in the business district, but most of the handsome early twentieth-century brick commercial structures have remained relatively free of alteration. Two large municipal parking areas have been ingeniously hidden in the centers of blocks, and the buildings that surround them left untouched. On the whole the impression of a nineteenth-century rural town and county seat is not disturbed by modern development.

Most of the buildings in Snow Hill's historic district were constructed between 1800 and 1860, and the several styles of the nineteenth century determine the town's architectural character. Of those houses in the historic district listed in the state Historic Sites Inventory, fully 80% were built during the nineteenth century, while the remainder date from the eighteenth and twentieth centuries. Two-story frame dwellings predominate, with masonry construction reserved primarily for religious, commercial, and public buildings. Most of the

residential structures were built on a uniform scale, although a few, such as the Hargis House and the John Walter Smith House, stand out because of their large size. There is, likewise, little variation in the degree of decoration of most of Snow Hill's historic houses; the restraint of the Federal style sets the general tone, while even the most ornate Victorian dwellings blend well into the town's atmosphere.

Two of the three buildings in Snow Hill that are certifiably of eighteenth-century origin are located on West Market Street at its intersection with Church Street. 200 West Market Street is a handsome, two-story frame house. Built in the popular townhouse plan on a brick foundation, the house is three bays wide and three deep with a gable roof. The entry door is on the east side of the south facade; at each side of the building are pilasters ending at the cornice, which has a series of dentils and end boards. A two-story, one-bay wing adjoins the west end of the building, and a large chimney separates the two sections. The house is sheathed in clapboard, and the interior woodwork merits particular attention: panelled overmantels were used over the corner fireplaces, an arch separates the hall into two sections, and the stair features unusual turned balusters. 200 West Market Street has recently been restored by its owners.

Nearby stands All Hallows Episcopal Church (listed in the NR), built between 1748 and 1754 at a cost of 80,000 pounds of tobacco. It is a simple, one-story brick building laid in Flemish bond, with glazed headers on the two five-bay walls. The entrance is now on the southwest gable, but the central bays of the side were formerly entrances. Unique in Worcester are the semicircular arches of gauged brick with molded keystones and imposts. A kick to the eave is reminiscent of the eave at Genesar. A major remodeling of the interior was carried out in 1891, and two buttresses were added in the

nineteenth century to stabilize the south corner.

Chanceford is a Federal style dwelling that was built during the 1790's. Also known as Ingleside, the handsome mansion on West Federal Street was originally constructed of brick, although this was covered with sand stucco early in the nineteenth century. The main block has, in a sense, two main facades; from the east, it would appear as any townhouse, with two stories and three bays and a side hall and double parlor floor plan. The north side faces the street, however, and its five bays are crowned with a handsome pedimented gable. Behind the main part of the building is a wing; one room wide and two deep, it houses a stair hall that is similar to the main stair and one contained a ballroom that has been converted into a kitchen. A modern living porch has recently been constructed at the rear of the house. Chanceford can boast of no panelling, but its mantels and trim have a modest carved decoration which can be seen as a transition from the bold carving of the Georgian style to the delicate work of the Federal style.

One of the finest of Snow Hill's early nineteenth century dwellings is Cherrystone. Constructed in 1811 in the Federal style, it has a gable similar to that of its neighbor, Chanceford; this was the main facade until the land on either side of the former entrance allee was sold and houses constructed. It is three bays wide and three deep with a three-bay hyphen and a three-bay wing, both of which are one story.

Cherrystone's two-story main portion has beaded clapboard above a brick basement; along the street side is a one-story screened porch with Doric columns and balustrades above. The entrance is located on the east side of this facade and features a fanlight and panelled door. The sash have nine-over-six panes on the first story and six-over-six on the second story and in the attic. Shaped modillions with swags of drill holes between line the cornice, and the gable roof is covered with

wood shingles. Three gabled dormers pierce the roof, apparently an after-thought. On the west gable is a large capped chimney, narrow but deep and tall. A small brick cellar entrance is beneath the south window on the west gable. Both the hyphen and wing have central doors with the upper part glazed, six-over-six windows and beaded clapboard. The roof of the hyphen is lower and less steep than that of the kitchen. There is a fireplace with chimney on the west gable of the kitchen, located outside the structure.

The Whaley House is an early nineteenth-century dwelling with a five-bay long, two-story portion connected to a two-bay long, lower two-story wing; a hyphen and one-story kitchen are set at right angles to the wing. The entire structure is of frame construction with clapboard siding. A two-story porch features a lattice-design balustrade, and is supported by four square columns. The central door has sidelights and a transom, and all first story windows have four-over-four sash, a late nineteenth-century change. The second-story windows have six-over-six sash, and louvered shutters are used throughout the house. Chimneys are at each gable, one inside and the other out. The wing has two windows on each story and a door on the first; on its gable, and on the kitchen gable as well, is a large exposed chimney and fireplace built in a pyramidal shape. Off the kitchen and hyphen is a leanto porch, partially shaded by a lattice. The Whaley House is currently used as apartments.

A simple, early nineteenth-century, Federal-style building, 209 West Market Street is five bays long, two stories high, and of frame construction with asbestos siding. A large exterior chimney is built on the east gable and is flanked by a window on each level. The windows on both stories have nine-over-six sash and louvered shutters, though the upper windows are smaller. Later in the century, several additions were made to the house, including a second story bay window above the front door, a

central gable in the "A" roof, and a frame wing in the rear.

The house at 118 West Market Street is similar to number 209: it is a two-story, five-bay by two-bay, frame house on a brick foundation, that has been covered with asbestos siding. The sash on the facade have one-over-one panes, while those on the east side have nine-over-nine, nine-over-six and six-over-six on the first, second and attic levels, respectively. The Federal house was "Victorianized" late in the last century, with the addition of a screened front porch and a double entrance door with applied bolelection molding. Above the front door, however, there is a Palladian style window with fluted pilaster strips and a keystone with rosette - confirming the Federal origin of this house. There is a lancet window in a gable in the center of the "A" roof. At each end of the building there is a brick chimney, one within and one outside the wall, and to the rear a large two-story, three-bay "L".

The house at 204 West Green Street is almost identical to the main part of the Whaley House, although it is not as well preserved. Built on a high brick foundation, number 204 is a frame dwelling, five bays long and two deep with two full stories and a two-story porch on the facade. A chimney is located on each side of the house, one built on the outside and the other encased in the structure; the entire building is covered with clapboard. A simple rectangular transom is atop the door, and the windows of the first story are taller than those of the second. The yard is enclosed by a Victorian piercework fence.

Reputed to be the oldest house in Snow Hill, the Little House, also known as Thebaud Cottage, is a one-and-one-half-story frame structure composed of two small sections. The taller portion is three bays long with two "A" roof dormers, and the smaller portion is two bays long with a single "A" roof dormer. The building is sheathed in white clapboard and

the first story windows have louvered shutters. In the larger section is the entrance door, closest to the wing, and an exposed chimney. An enclosed chimney is found on the opposite end of the house. Wood shingles cover the roof. The sash of the first story windows have nine-over-six panes and the ones in the dormers have six-over-six panes. Although the Little House was built in a vernacular mode that could place its construction on either side of 1800, all of the exterior trim seems to indicate an early nineteenth-century origin.

Another of Snow Hill's fine Federal Houses is the Episcopal Rectory at 109 Federal Street. The main portion of this frame dwelling is three bays long and three deep, but another bay with a gable was added to the east end in the late nineteenth century. The entrance has an "A" roof portico above the door, which is flanked by fluted pilasters that sunbursts in the capitals, but nothing above them. It is located on the easternmost side of the original portion. The structure is built on a brick foundation and is covered with beaded clapboard. On both levels, the windows are quite tall, having nine-over-nine sash on the first story and nine-over-six on the second, and all are flanked by louvered shutters. The cornice has a fascia with flat modillion blocks and swags of drill holes between each block. In the gable are two small windows with three-over-six sash and on the same side in a small screened porch off the back bay, now a door.

On the north corner of Federal and Washington Streets is the MacPherson House, a two-story frame structure that is three bays long and two deep, with a two-bay, one-story wing. The windows that have not been changed to one pane sash have nine-over-six and six-over-six sash. Thanks to a recent restoration, the MacPherson House has lost a leanto screened porch from its main facade; but its most noteworthy feature - beaded clapboard siding with shaped end boards - was at the same time replaced

with aluminum siding. The two-story gable contains a large interior chimney, and the opposite gable has an exposed pyramidal chimney.

One of Snow Hill's unique buildings is the Hargis House, Chanceford's neighbor to the east, and a fine example of the Italianate Victorian style that was in vogue during the mid-nineteenth century. It is a three-story, frame structure, now covered with white asbestos siding, three bays long and two deep with a two-story, two bay wing off-set at the rear.

Each bay consists of a double window with an over cornice in an uncommon double reverse ogee design; even the very small third-story windows received this treatment. Above each bay and at the corners in the cornice are two pairs of carved and shaped end brackets; between these brackets are large dentils. At the apex of the nearly flat roof is a tall lantern with the same window and cornice treatment. A chimney with two pots stands to the west of the lantern.

On the Division Street side, one bay is a bay window with unusual brackets and swags. The windows and cornice decoration on the back wing are the same as in the main portion of the house, but here there is only one window in each bay. The front door, in the center of the Federal Street facade, has a double door, side-lights and transome. In the fancy work above is some cut out scroll work which is not repeated above the windows.

The Laws House is a fine two-and-one-half-story frame residence that dates from the second quarter of the nineteenth century. The five-bay by three-bay structure is sheathed in beaded clapboard and stands on a tall brick basement. On the first story facade is a porch almost identical to the one on the house at 401 West Federal Street. A superior entablature surrounds the front door, with semi-engaged fluted columns with sunburst capitals and a pediment over the fanlight. The four

windows on the facade have been lengthened and hung with one-pane sash. The other windows have dark green louvered shutters. The cornice is unusual, its shaped modillions approaching the size of brackets, beneath which is a series of circles. Two dormers light the attic of the gable roof. A chimney is set within each gable, painted white to match the basement and clapboard.

104 East Market Street is a five-bay long, two-story house with a three-bay, one-story wing. It appears to have been built about 1840, then remodeled at a later date with the addition of a gable in each "A" roof plus decorative slate shingling. The door is centrally located with sidelights and a transom. There is a Victorian screened porch on the first story with "gingerbread"; the windows of the second story have six-over-six sash and louvered shutters. In the main part of the house two chimneys rise through the roof within the gable walls, but the chimney on the wing is exposed.

Next door, at number 106 East Market Street, is the Dave Johnson House, also known as Necessity. This frame, Federal style dwelling was probably built during the second quarter of the nineteenth century. Like several dwellings in nearby Berlin, this house has a pedimented gable facade with a small Doric entrance porch. The large windows with nine-over-nine sash and the transom and sidelights of the door give an airiness typical of late Federal architecture.

The Thebaud House on East Market Street is one of the most unusual and appealing nineteenth-century dwellings in Snow Hill. The earliest part of the frame house probably dates from the second quarter of the nineteenth century, with the other three sections built subsequently; all four parts have elaborate Victorian detailing that was added before the turn of the century. A cast iron trellis supports the porch roof, while a two-story gallery on the back wing of the house is constructed

entirely of wood. Pierced and scalloped Gothic ornamentation is found along the cornice and the gables.

Mt. Zion School is a three-bay deep, one-story, frame structure sheathed with vertical boards and battens, that is approximately one hundred years old. The entrance is one gable and has a plain panelled door; a chimney is located at the ridge of the other gable. The building stands on a new brick foundation on the grounds of the Snow Hill School, having been moved from its original location. All six windows are now closed by panelled shutters. There is an overhang around the entire "A" roof.

Built in the style of the Second Empire, 401 Federal Street is a fine dwelling erected during the last quarter of the nineteenth century. It is three bays long and one deep, with a one-story porch on its facade. The porch has turned balusters, and the roof is supported on chamfered square columns; decorative corner brackets with turned finials hang between the columns. The bracket that is found in the cornice of the mansard roof is repeated on the porch cornice. Both porch and trim are painted white.

The main part of the house is sided in clapboard. Each window, flanked by louvered shutters, has two-over-two sash and a series of dentils above. The central door features two glass panels in the upper part. The roof is covered with slate with a decorative motif throughout, and is pierced by three small jerkinhead dormers. Two white brick chimneys come up through the roof in the approximate center of the building. To the east rear is a one-and-one-half-story, three-bay wing, with the same treatment as the forward section, and on the east side of the house is a two-story bay window.

301 Federal Street, also known as the Payne House, sits in a yard amid a lush growth of trees, boxwood and ivy. It is a large Victorian house, built in the Queen Anne style around 1880; five bays long and two deep, its steep "A" roof features

a gable above the central bay. On the Federal Street facade of this two-and-one-half-story house is a one-story porch with Doric columns and a low balustrade on the roof. Although most of the building is sheathed in white clapboard, the gables are differentiated from the lower portions by fish scale shingles. Each window has a segmentally-arched upper sash, green louvered shutters and two-over-two sash; the central entrance has a similar arch with the addition of sidelights. There are decorative cornice-lintels above the windows, and on the cornice, ornate paired brackets. The window in the gable has a semicircular head, and in the apex is a decorative cut-out bracket, also repeated in the other gables. Two chimneys with decorative caps pierce the "A" roof, which is sheathed with slate in a design of contrasting shades. On the west side of the house is a one-story porch.

The Makemie Memorial Presbyterian Church was constructed in 1887-89 in high Victorian Gothic style. Built of brick on a rough-cut stone foundation, the same stone was used as trim around the windows, doors, buttresses and as belt courses around the towers. Essentially, it is a cruciform structure with each vacant corner filled by an additional room: two towers on the street facade and service rooms on the rear. On each of the four gables of the cross is a huge stained glass window; entrance is gained through a double door in each tower. The towers have lancet windows, buttresses and octagonal spires, each with a decorative finial and turrets. The east tower contains the bell, and is considerably taller than the other. All of the building has the same reddish color and green-painted woodwork. The roof is covered with composition shingles, and the spires with slate.

Originally constructed in 1891 as a Roman Catholic chapel, the Julia A. Purnell Museum is a single-story, frame building on a brick foundation, sheathed in green clapboard. It is

three bays wide and four deep with an "A" roof whose gable faces West Market Street. It has a double door with transom, flanked by two colored glass windows with lancet arches. The windows along the sides of the building are rectangular, and the two center bays are composed of two bays each. To the front of the nave is the sanctuary. The interior is plain, but the exposed woodwork and structural members are attractive. The building is currently maintained by the Worcester County Historical Society as a museum in memory of Julia A. Purnell.

The John Walter Smith House is one of a small number of Queen Anne style buildings found in Snow Hill. Built about 1890 by wealthy merchant and future Governor J. Walter Smith, the massive frame dwelling is a compilation of clapboard and shingle, porches and towers, gables and recesses. On each end of the Church Street facade is a tower, one tall and octagonal, and the other shorter and round. The tall first-story windows have one-over-one sash. A porch with pairs of Doric columns extends partially around the house, following the contours of the towers. It is a successful display of decorative effects.

Built in 1894 in a style which is a combination of Queen Anne and Classical Revival, the Worcester County Courthouse is one of the finest municipal buildings on the Eastern Shore. It is similar to the Caroline County Courthouse prior to the latter's recent remodeling. The Courthouse is five bays long with more recent wings set back from the facade on each side. The brick is laid in all-stretcher bond. A double glass door with leaded glass sidelights and an elliptical fanlight is found in the central bay; entrance is gained through a Doric portico with four columns and a low cast iron cresting. All of the second-story windows, including the single window above the entrance, have semicircular head and upper sash with

radiating mullions. Above the central window is a block of red sandstone bearing the name of the building, and flanking the window are Ionic pilasters. On each side of the central bay is a pavillion set out from the wall only a few inches and also flanked by Ionic pilasters. Crowning the first story windows are flat arches with brick keystones. Each pavillion has a bulls-eye window in the center of its simple pediment. An octagonal cupola sits atop the central bay on an Ionic base which holds the town clock. The wings have been built of matching brick, and have no windows on their facade.

On the corner of Federal and Washington Streets stands a large granite building, Whatcoat Methodist Church, constructed in 1900 in the Romanesque style. Fronting on each street is a wide gable containing a huge three-part stained glass window flanked by two smaller windows, and on the corner stands a tall tower. High in the gable is a row of three small windows, and each gable is capped with pre-cast concrete. The tower contains the double entrance door with stained glass fanlight, a very tall, thin stained glass window and a cornice of corbels; above is a slate-sided bell platform with three louvered arches in each of the four sides, and a heavy white cornice, pyramid roof and an ornate finial.

On the Federal Street side is another two-story, crenelated tower and a wing, extending the depth of the church, with octagonal ends. The smaller tower contains an entrance which is identical to the one found in the larger tower. On the second level are two small stained glass windows with semi-circular arches. All of the arches above the windows and doors are made of a lighter grey granite than the rest of the walls. The wood trim is painted white and the doors are natural oak.

The elements of the church seem to be more eclectic than,

for example, the contemporary Lovely Lane Methodist Church in Baltimore. It is similar to Buckingham Church in Berlin for its mass, building material, and style.

In 1893 a serious fire levelled much of Snow Hill's business district, and many of the town's commercial buildings were rebuilt during the closing years of the nineteenth and the early years of the twentieth century. A noteworthy row of two-story brick commercial buildings is located on Green Street, between Bank Street and Washington Avenue. Among other commercial structures, three are of particular architectural value. The Old Commercial Bank on Pearl Street is now the law office of Edward Thomas. It is three bays wide with the entrance on its north side; above the entrance is a small pyramidal tower with a pediment on its face. The two windows are set within their own panels and have double sash and stained glass transoms, as well as granite sills and imposts. The cornice is composed of a series of blocks and the hipped roof is covered with slate. The building has its counterparts in two of the small banks of Berlin, north of Snow Hill.

On the corner of Market and Bank Streets is the First National Bank, a single-story, brick, Queen Anne style structure made important by its decorative features. It is three bays wide and four bays deep with a circular entrance tower on its southeast corner. Both windows and doors have red sandstone sills and lintels, and above the lintels of the windows are semicircular arched transoms. The brickwork above the height of the lintels is laid in Flemish bond with all of the headers recessed about one-half inch, creating a basketweave effect. Above this is a molded brick cornice. The roof is essentially a hipped roof with some superimposed hips where the wall "breaks out" on each side; the tower has a conical roof, and features a copper ball finial.

Most of the downtown commercial structures possess

rather standard facades, but feature a variety of cornice details. The Sturgis Building, located directly across from the Courthouse on Market Street, is three bays wide on its first story facade and four bays wide on the second story. The central bay of the first story contains an alcove with three doors leading to the offices beyond and upstairs. All openings have segmental arches and red sandstone sills. The cornice has brackets with panelled fascia between, and a series of discs above. In the center is a semicircular fan with three finials, the latter repeated at the ends of the building. The entire cornice appears to be made of tin.

South of Federal Street and east of Collins Street, the District is defined by houses reflecting a variety of late-19th and early-20th century vernacular and pattern-book styles. Common lot size, frame construction, and two or two-and-a-half story height, serve to unify this diverse collection of resources.

SNOW HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT

History and Support

Snow Hill is a rural town on the lower Eastern Shore which has preserved much of its nineteenth-century character in its Federal and Victorian dwellings, public buildings, and commercial structures. The town plan of Snow Hill is one of the more noteworthy in the area, its wide, tree-lined residential avenues contrasting to the narrow, alley-like streets of the business district. The county seat of Worcester County, Snow Hill is also one of the oldest towns on the Eastern Shore.

Located on the south side of the Pocomoke River, the site of Snow Hill was once used as a landing place by Indians; when the earliest white settlers in the vicinity arrived in 1642, they named the area "Snow Hill", after the suburb of London from which they had come. In 1676 the land on which the present town stands was included in a tract of the same name that was patented by Col. William Stevens. Stevens, a prominent planter in what was then Somerset County, amassed a fortune by combining agriculture and merchandising with land speculation. He sold the tract called "Snow Hill" to Henry Bishop in 1678 for the sum of 15,000 pounds of tobacco.

In "An Act for the Advancement of Trade", the Maryland Assembly directed in 1683 that five new towns be founded in Somerset County. Three years later the "Snow Hill" tract was selected as one of these sites, and the requisite 100 acres were purchased from the Bishop family. Snow Hill was further made an official port of entry for the Province of Maryland in 1706. Although these pieces of legislation were ultimately disallowed by the Queen, many of the towns whose founding they had directed took root and grew. When Worcester County was carved from Somerset County in 1742, Snow Hill was resurveyed and designated the county seat. A second resurvey

was carried out in 1793; the plat of this, giving lot numbers, streets and alleys, and the evidence on which the survey rests, is recorded in the Worcester County Court records.

Snow Hill soon became an important overnight stop for those travelling north and south along the Delmarva peninsula. The town's economic mainstay during its early years, however, was the shipping and receiving a variety of commodities. Situated at the heart of a rich farming area, Snow Hill exported Eastern Shore tobacco, grain, lumber, and imported manufactured goods. It was also a transshipment point for commodities moving down the eastern seaboard to the Chesapeake Bay, and had a particular trading relationship with the West Indies, receiving rum, molasses, and sugar in return for local produce. Just as legitimate trade flourished in Snow Hill, so did its illicit counterpart: smuggling was carried on through nearby Chincoteague Bay and down the Pocomoke River, and many tales have been handed down of the brushes of the buccaneers with local customs officials. During this period of growing commercial prosperity, many businesses arose in support of the town's trading economy. Warehouses sprang up along the river, and a wheelwright and a shipwright became established before the mid-eighteenth century. Many of the town's leading citizens during the early years were Scottish merchants who acted as factors, buying produce from the surrounding area, and marketing it through the port of Snow Hill. One of these factors, Robert Martin, had by 1721 purchased most of the acreage surrounding the town and all of the lots in Snow Hill not already sold. His descendants became a decisive influence in the early development of the town.

By the time of the American Revolution, Snow Hill comprised an estimated fifty households, a size that was comparable to several other important towns on the Eastern Shore. Although the region produced many prominent patriot leaders,

the southern portion of the peninsula was a center of loyalist activity, as well. Tories maintained a fort near Snow Hill from which they intercepted boats travelling down the Pocomoke laden with provisions for the Continental armies. In spite of this interference, however, the town was designated in 1781 as the Somerset and Worcester receiving station for supplies being sent to Yorktown, and, throughout the war, huge quantities of meat and grain left Snow Hill destined for the army stores at Head of Elk.

During the early nineteenth century, Snow Hill changed with the young republic. Steamboats gradually replaced the schooners that had helped bring a measure of prosperity, but the town remained an active port, as goods and passengers travelled to and from the western shore. The operations of the nearby Nassawango Iron Furnace (listed in the National Register) further increased Snow Hill's river traffic. Begun in 1832 by Judge Ara Spence, the furnace refined bog iron found in the nearby swamps until 1842, when operations were ceased and the town of Furnace that it had spawned was abandoned. The days when river transportation was vital to commercial activity, however, were already numbered. In 1858 the first rail line on the southern Eastern Shore was begun, and Snow Hill ultimately became an important stop on the north-south peninsular route. The railroad helped give the southern part of the Eastern Shore considerable strategic importance during the Civil War. Organized at Snow Hill, Smith's Independent Cavalry Company served from October 15, 1862, to June 30, 1865. It was charged with preventing secret Confederate activity, and was stationed from time to time at Snow Hill, Newton, Point Lookout, Eastville, Drummondtown, Salisbury, Relay House, and Barnesville, but saw no action. George W. P. Smith was its captain.

The changing nature of the American lifestyle, as well

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as new modes of transportation, prompted Snow Hill to broaden its economic base during the nineteenth century to include some of the industries that help support the town today. Although fresh produce continued to be exported, Snow Hill's lumber industry grew during the later nineteenth century, and food processing was developed. A fruit drying plant was established by William T. Hargis during the 1860's. By 1895 the town could boast of two planing mills, a box factory and grist mill, a weaving mill, a rawhide whip factory, and a canning factory. Although many of these industrial establishments have since disappeared, Snow Hill still depends largely on canning and processing to supplement its agricultural economic base.

The residents of Snow Hill are justifiably proud of their architectural legacy, as it provides an excellent representation of the Federal and Victorian periods. Many of the finest of these houses have been closely linked with the history of the town. Chanceford, for instance, was erected by James Rounds Morris, Clerk of the Worcester County Court during the late eighteenth century. Others were the products of new wealth created by nineteenth-century industrial expansion. The Hargis House was built about 1860 by William T. Hargis, a local food processor. John Walter Smith, a future State Senator, Governor, and U.S. Senator, built the Queen Anne style house that bears his name around 1890, after amassing a fortune in retail merchandising. Although most of Snow Hill's structures post-date the Revolution, All Hallows Presbyterian Church, built between 1748 and 1754, and its neighbor, the house at 200 West Market Street, date from the mid-eighteenth century, bringing to mind Snow Hill's earlier years.

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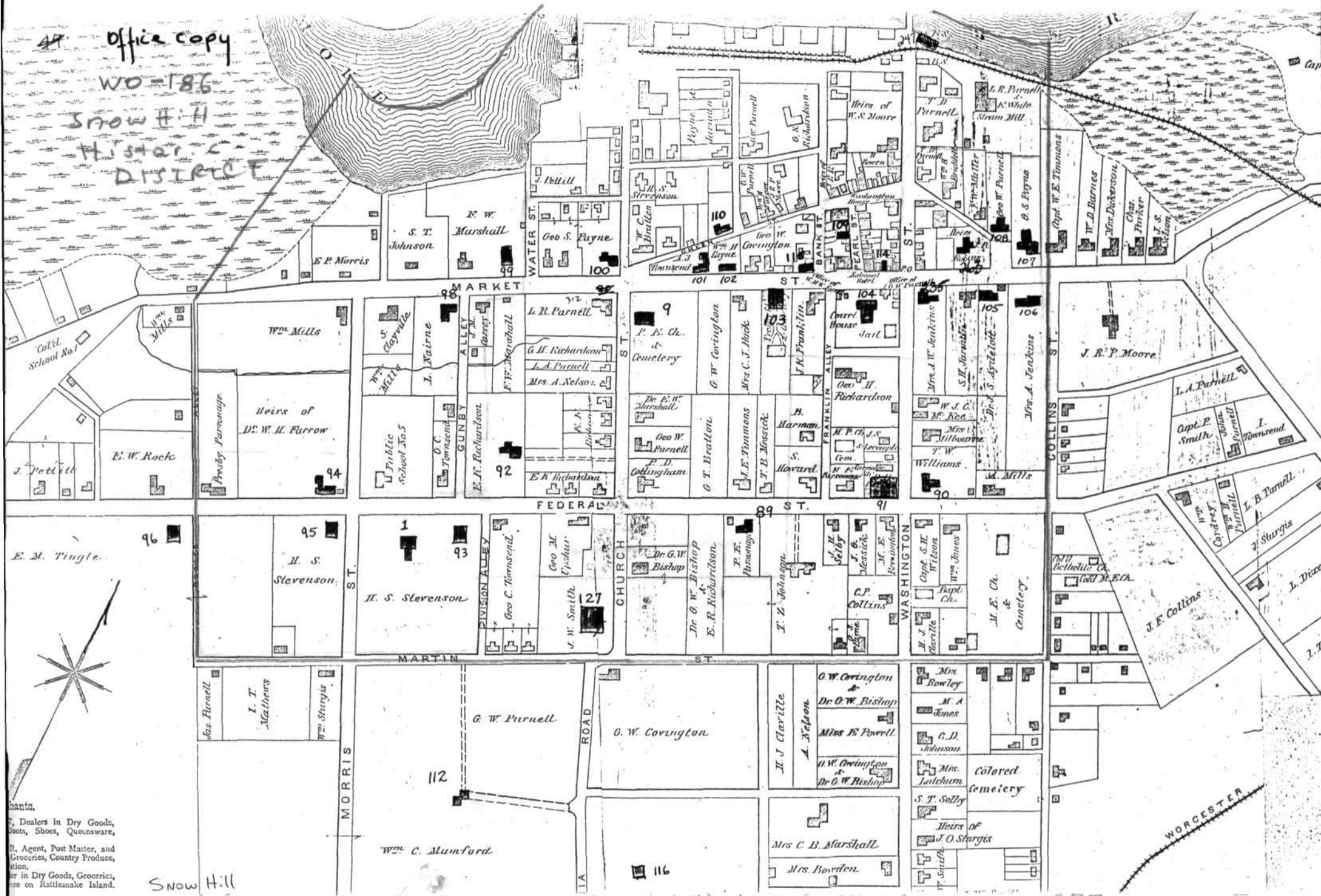
Prepared by Peter E. Kurtze from information in the files of
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Maryland, 21401. Telephone (301) 269-2438.

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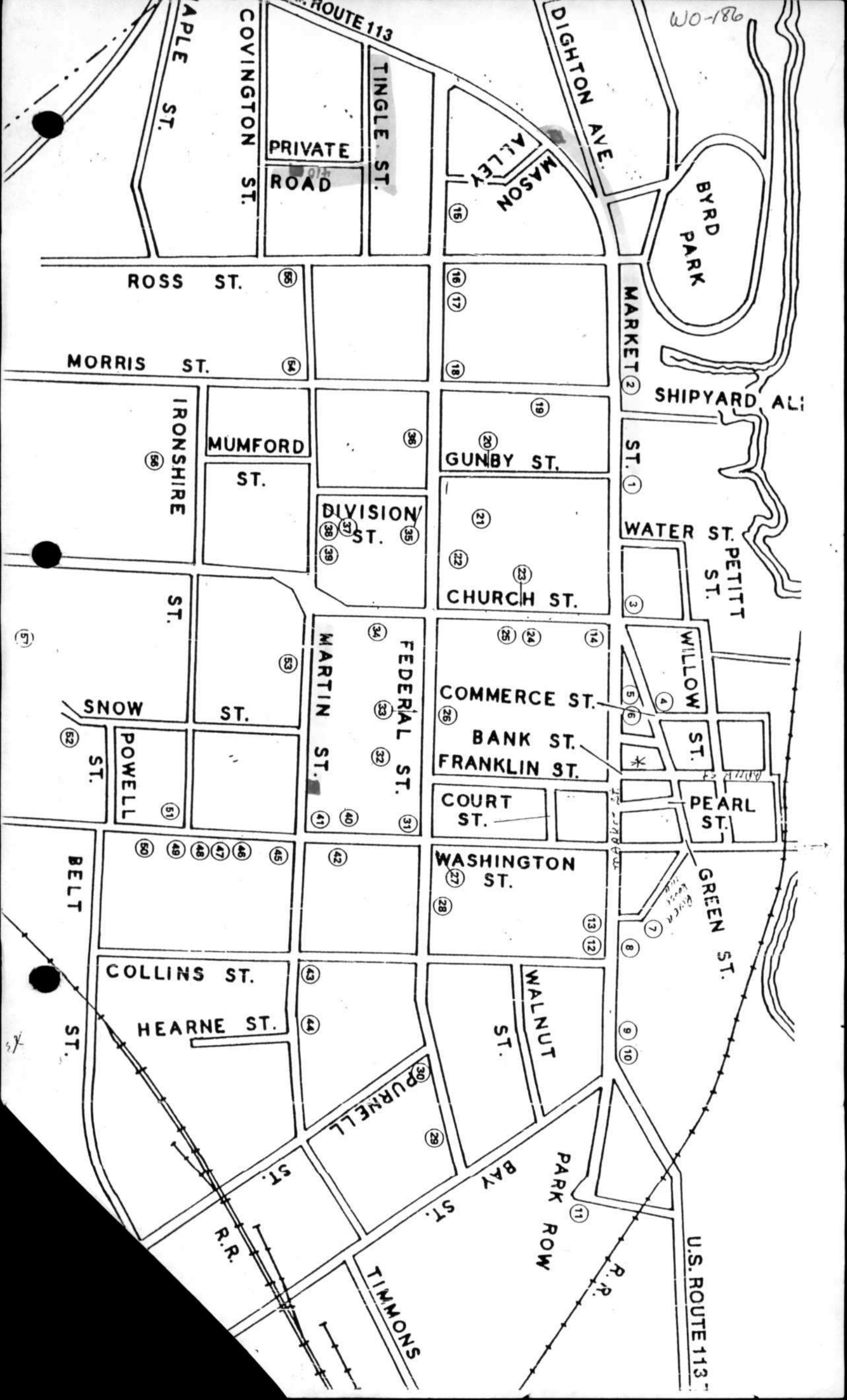
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Snow H. H.

HISTORICAL
DISTRICT



Snow H. H.



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ROUTE 113

DIGHTON AVE.

APPLE ST.

COVINGTON ST.

TINGLE ST.

PRIVATE ROAD

MASON ALLEY

BYRD PARK

ROSS ST.

MORRIS ST.

MARKET ST.

SHIPYARD ALI

IRONSHIRE ST.

MUMFORD ST.

GUNBY ST.

WATER ST. PETITT ST.

DIVISION ST.

CHURCH ST.

ST.

WILLOW ST.

SNOW ST.

ST.

COMMERCE ST. BANK ST. FRANKLIN ST.

PEARL ST.

POWELL ST.

FEDERAL ST. MARTIN ST.

COURT ST.

GREEN ST.

BELT ST.

COLLINS ST.

HEARNE ST.

WASHINGTON ST.

WALNUT ST.

PURNELL ST.

BAY ST.

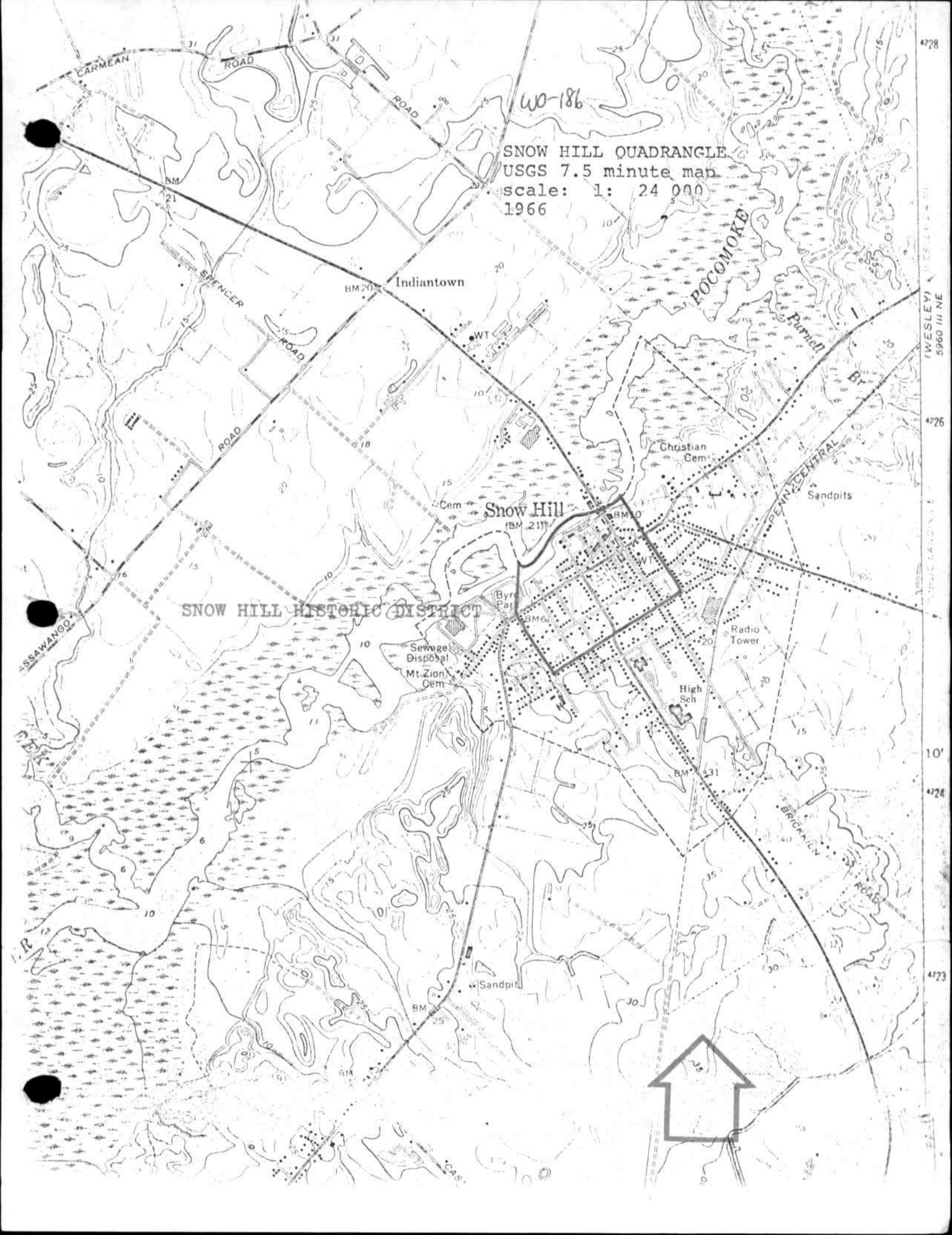
PARK ROW

TIMMONS ST.

U.S. ROUTE 113

R.R.

R.R.



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SNOW HILL QUADRANGLE
USGS 7.5 minute map
scale: 1: 24 000
1966

SNOW HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT





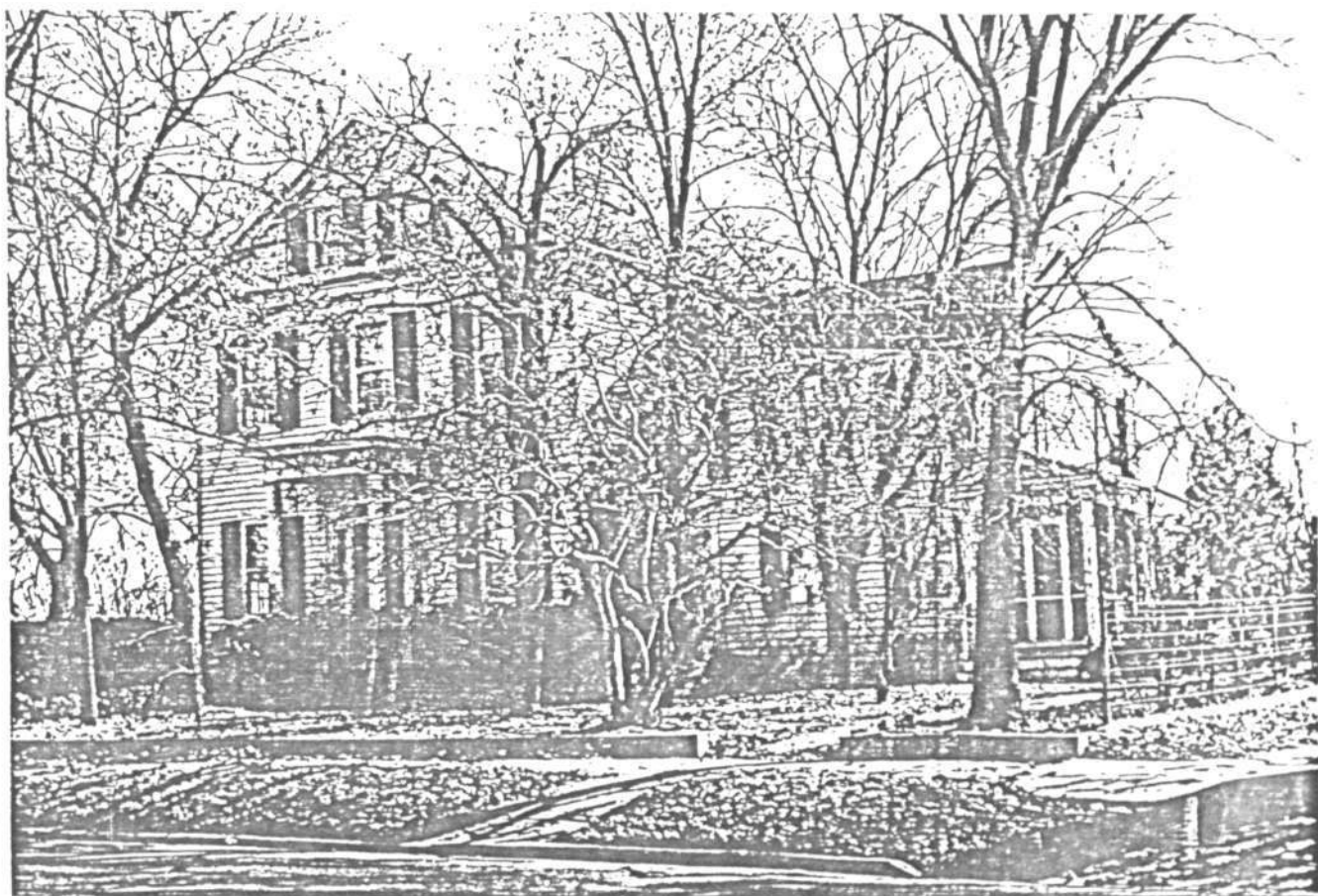
1 INGLESIDE (CHANCEFORD) 209 W. FEDERAL ST



2 MASON HOUSE (MUMFORD HOUSE)
207 W. IRONSHIRE ST.



3. 109 W. FEDERAL ST.



4. 106 E. MARKET ST.

WO-186



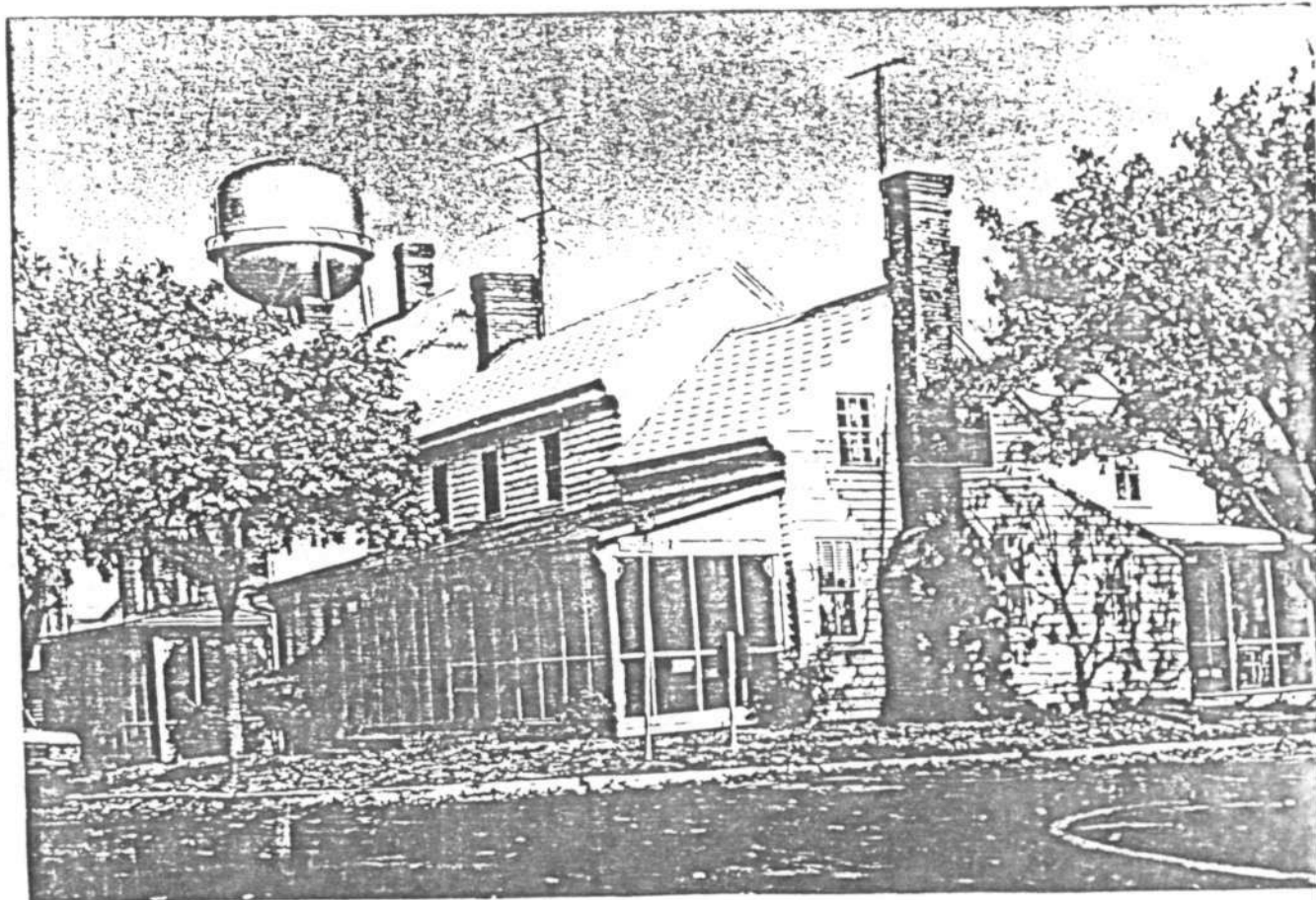
5 116 W. MARKET ST.



6 THEBAUD HOUSE, 201 E. MARKET ST.



7 BURBIS HOUSE



8 SOUTHEAST CORNER OF FEDERAL & WASHINGTON STS.

WO-186

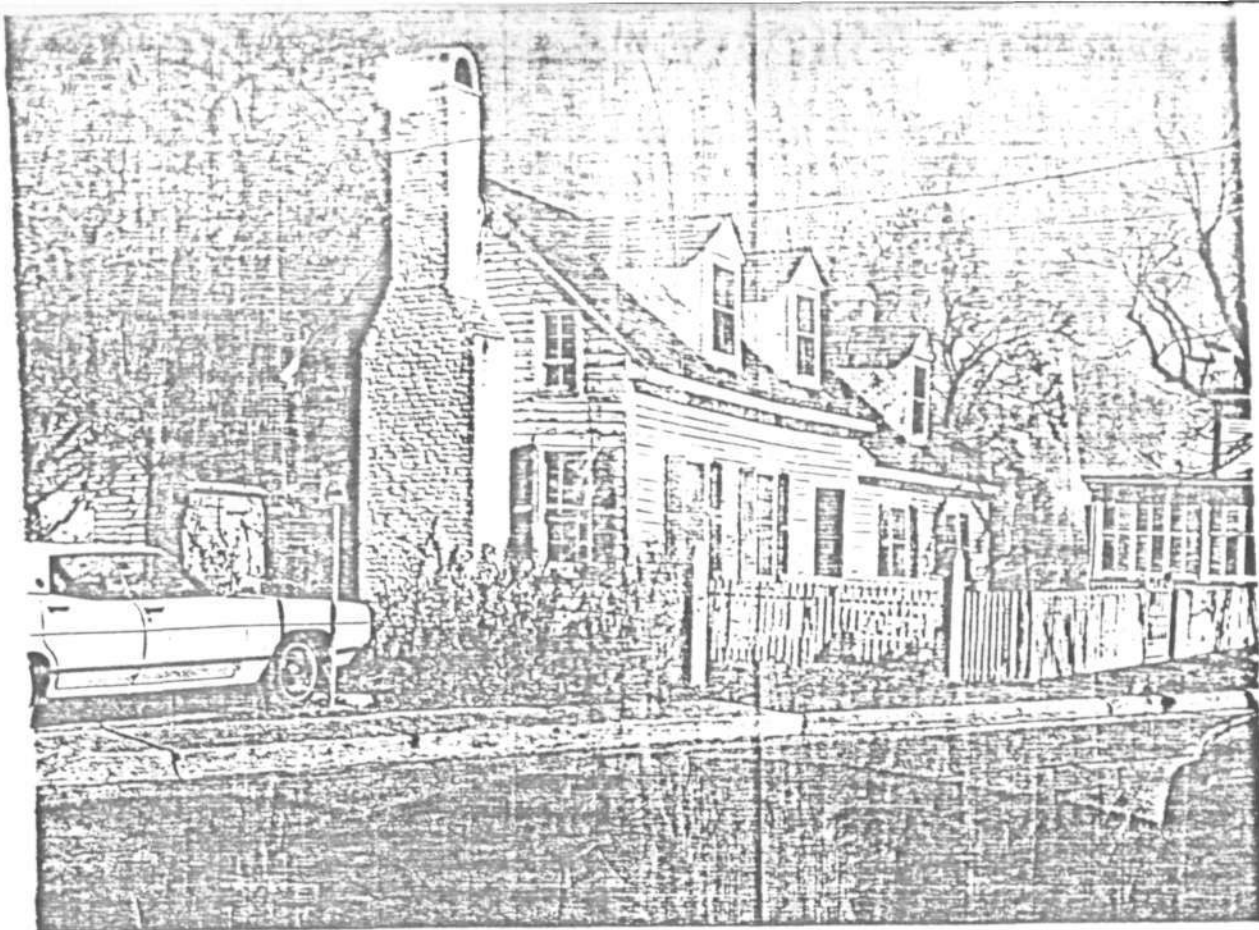


10. 401^W FEDERAL ST.



9. 118 W. MARKET ST.

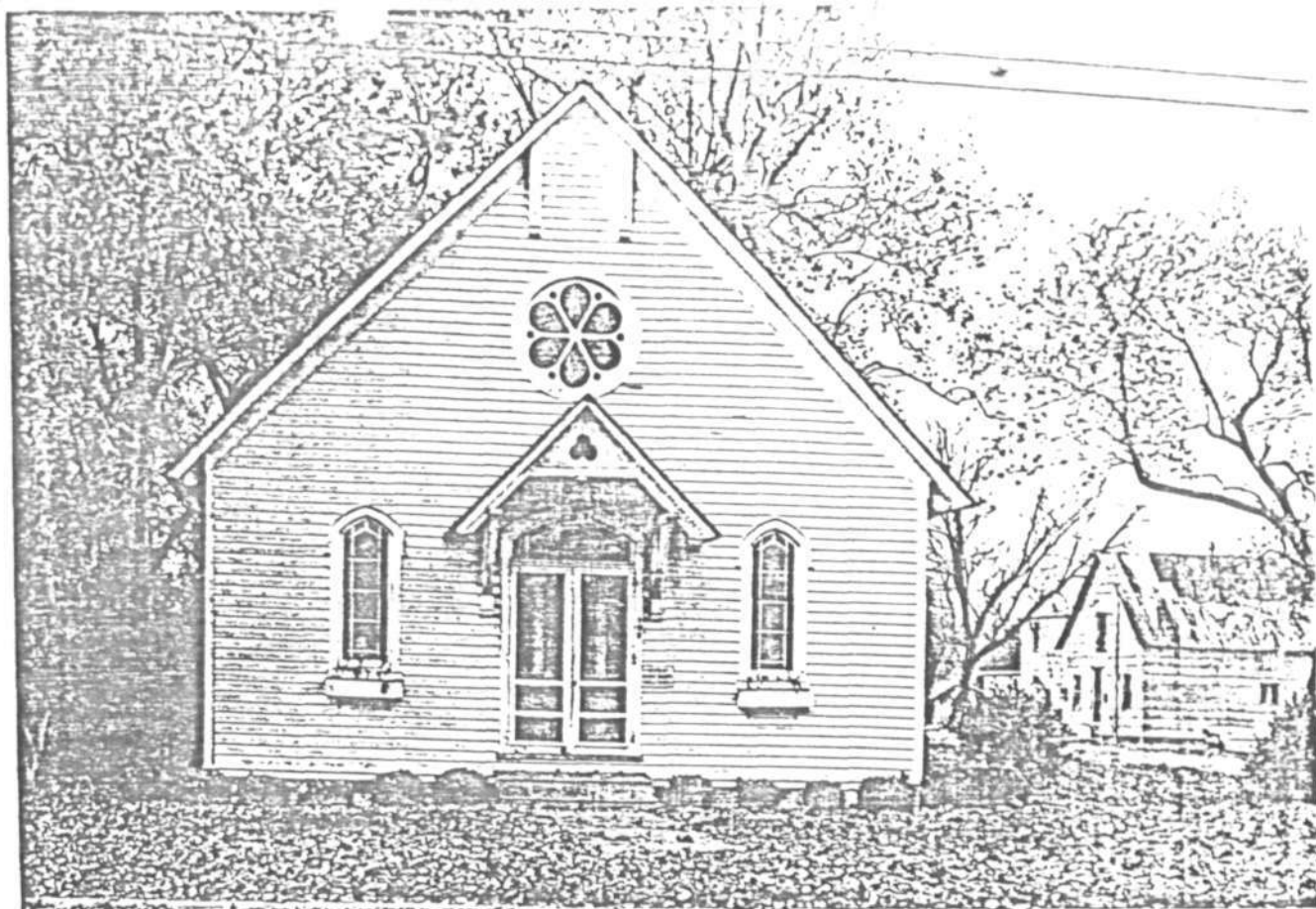
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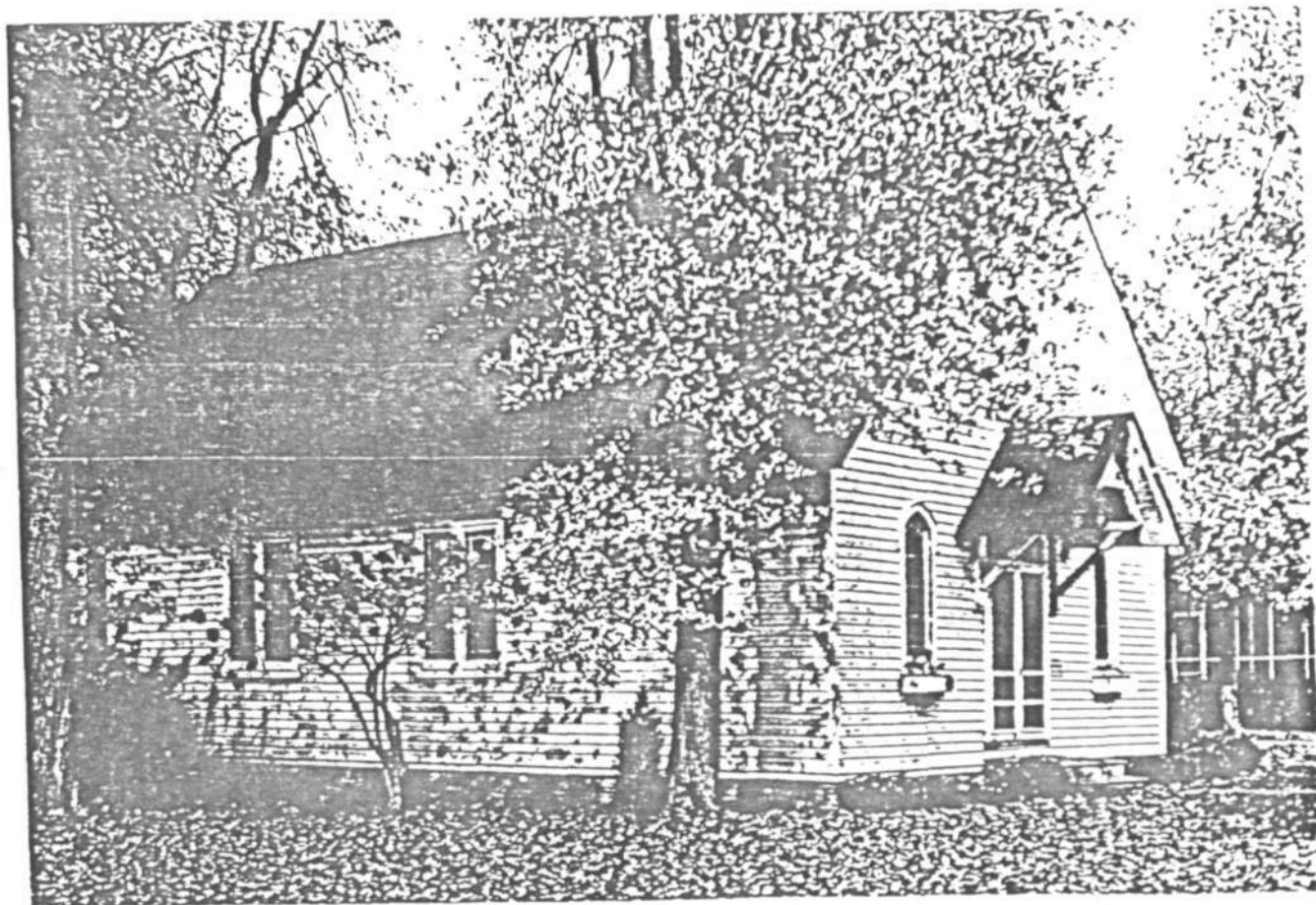
11 106 E. GREEN ST.

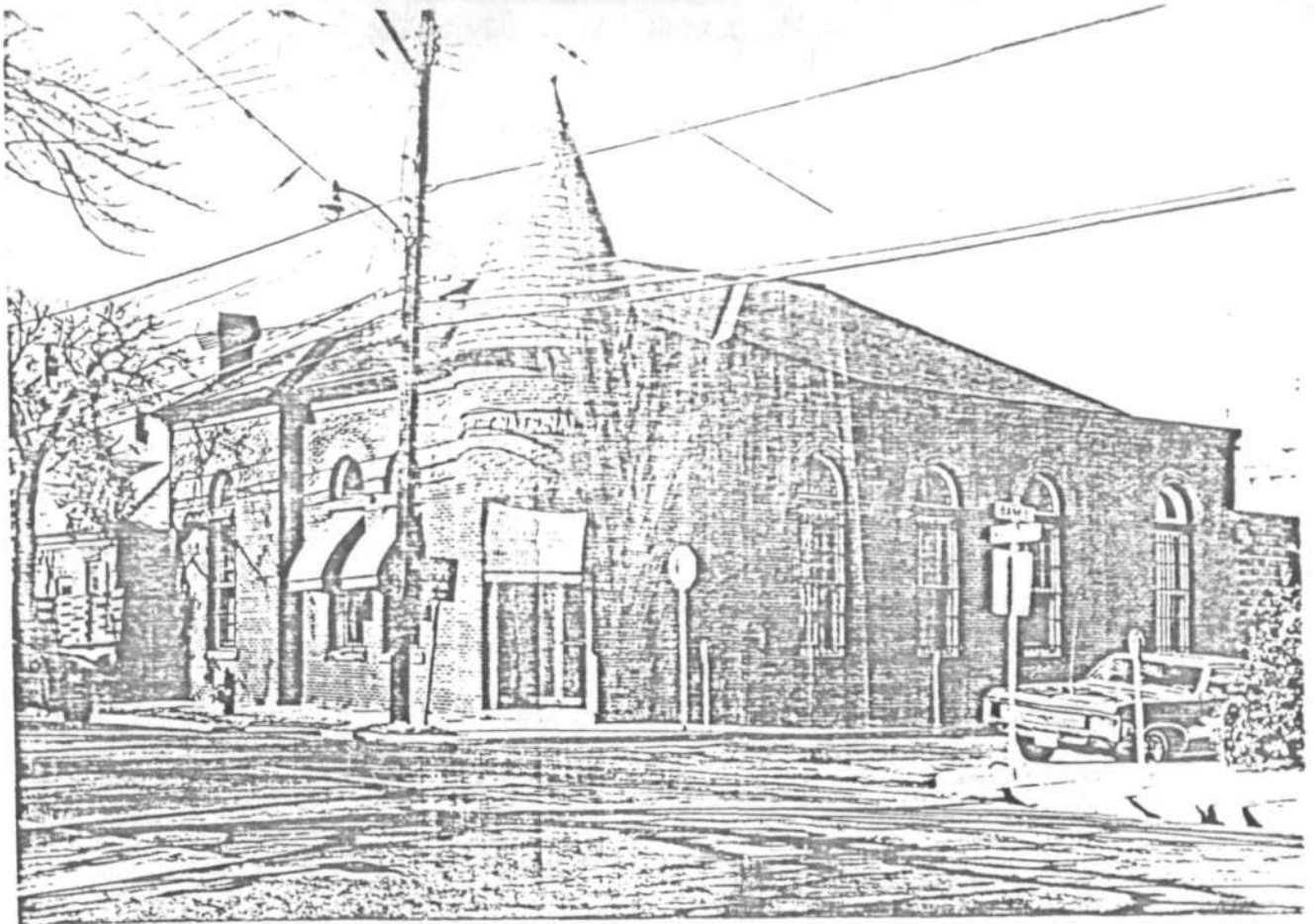


12 204 W. GREEN ST.

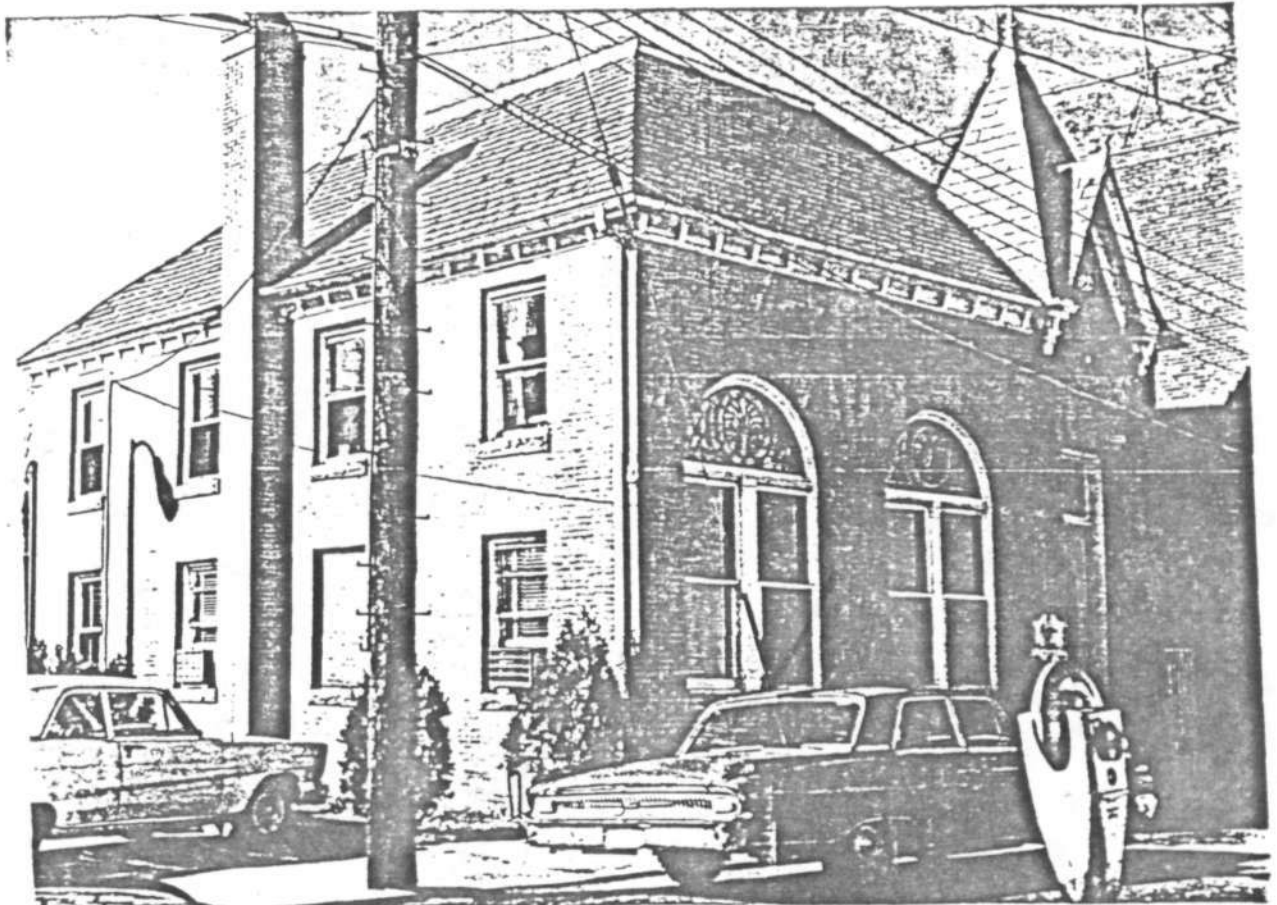


13 JULIA A. PURNELL MUSEUM, MARKET ST.



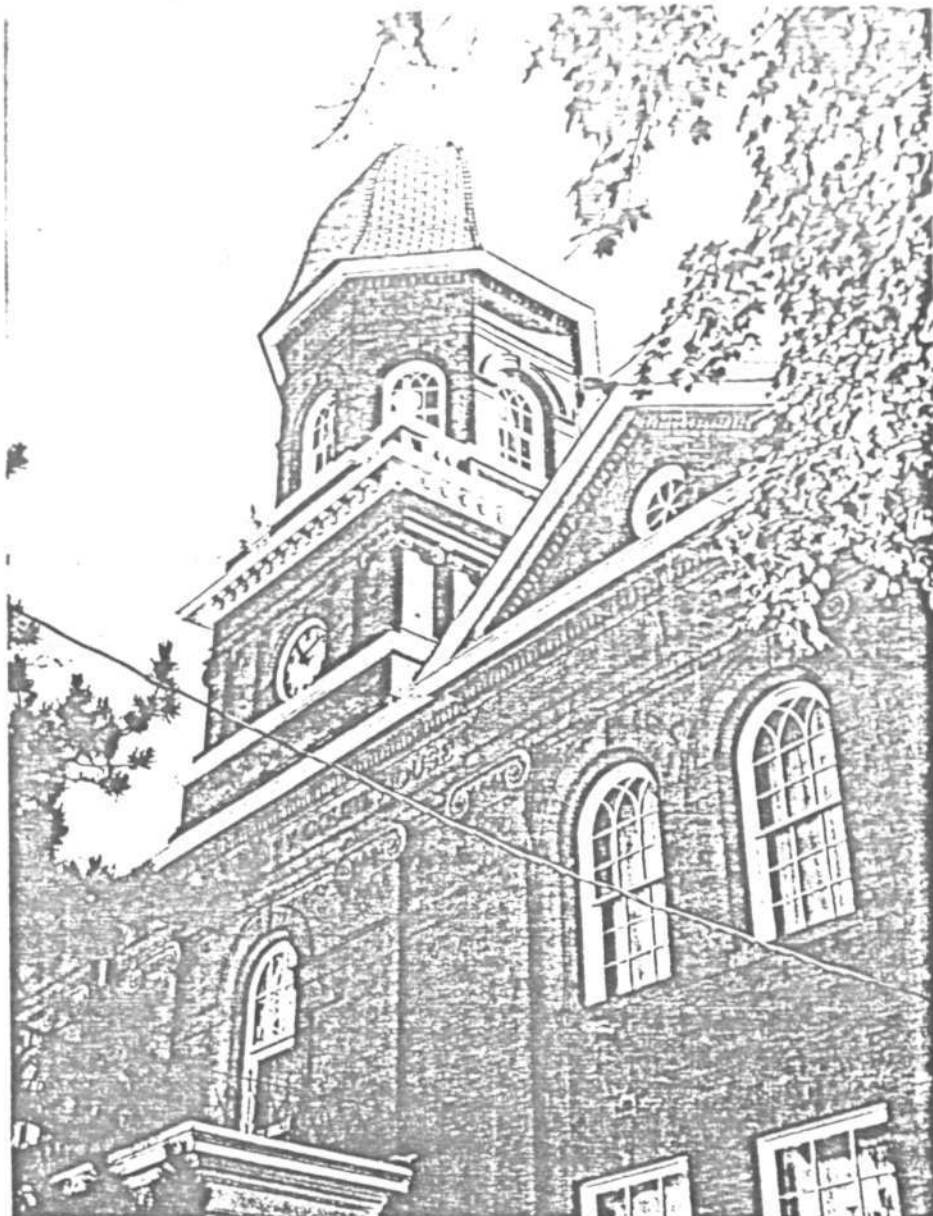


14 FIRST NATIONAL BANK, NORTHWEST CORNER OF BANK & MARKET STS.



15 LAW OFFICES,

WO-186



16 WORCESTER COUNTY COURTHOUSE



17 STURGIS BUILDING



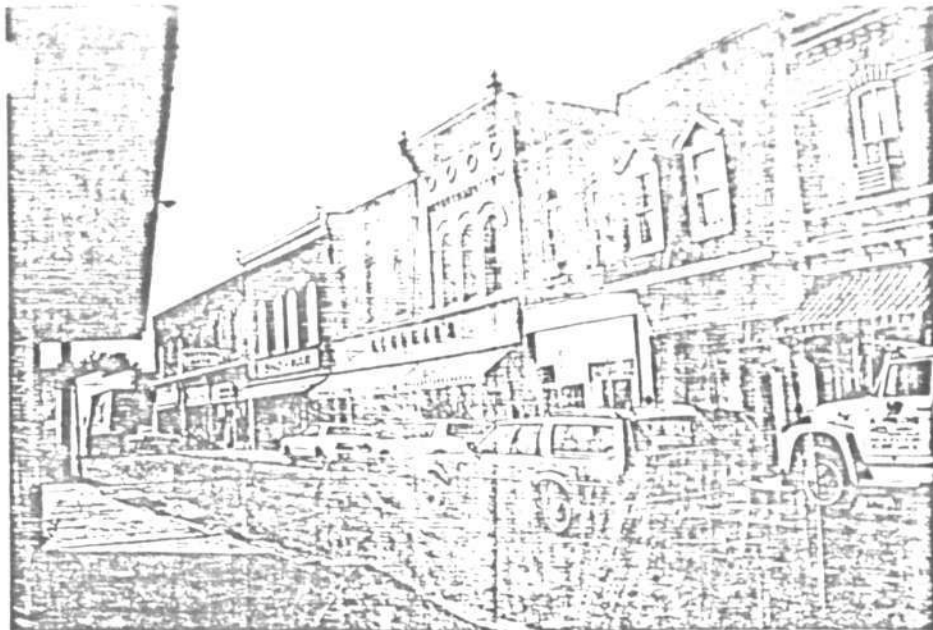
20 NORTH SIDE OF MARKET ST., LOOKING EAST FROM PEARL ST.



19 MARKET ST., LOOKING WEST FROM BANK ST.



18 PEARL ST., LOOKING SOUTH FROM GREEN ST.



22 NORTH SIDE OF GREEN ST., BETWEEN BANK ST. & WASHINGTON ST., LOOKING WEST FROM WASHINGTON ST.



21 NORTH SIDE OF GREEN ST., BETWEEN BANK ST. & WASHINGTON ST., LOOKING EAST FROM BANK ST.



23 NORTH SIDE OF GREEN ST. AT WASHINGTON ST.



27 EAST SIDE OF COLLINS ST., SOUTH OF FEDERAL ST.



26 WEST SIDE OF COLLINS ST., SOUTH OF MARKET ST.



28 EAST SIDE OF MUMFORD ST., SOUTH OF MARTIN ST.



24 NORTH SIDE OF PARK ROW LOOKING EAST
FROM BAY ST.



25 HOUSE, SOUTH SIDE OF PARK ROW AT BAY ST.



29 MAKEMIE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



34 WHATCOAT METHODIST CHURCH



33 ALL HALLOWS CHURCH

WO-186

32



100 BLOCK S. CHURCH ST., EAST SIDE



31 100 BLOCK N. CHURCH ST., WEST SIDE



30 NORTH SIDE OF MARKET ST., AT GUNBY ST.

CONTRIBUTING RESOURCE
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property Name: 215 E. Martin St. Survey Number: WO-186

Property Address: 215 E. Martin Street, Snow Hill

Project: CDBG Rehabilitation (9203269) Agency: Snow Hill

Site visit by MHT Staff: ☒ no ☐ yes Name Date

District Name: Snow Hill Historic District Survey Number: WO-186

☐ Listed ☒ Eligible D.O.E. -27 Oct 1981 Comment

Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

The resource ☒ contributes/ ☐ does not contribute to the historic significance of this historic district in:

☒ Location ☒ Design ☒ Setting ☐ Materials

☐ Workmanship ☐ Feeling ☒ Association

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)

215 E. Martin Street is located within the boundaries of the National Register eligible Snow Hill Historic District. Although this late 19th century, two-story, five bay, frame residence has been altered with the addition of asphalt shingles and replacement windows, it still contributes to the character of the Snow Hill Historic District in overall size, scale and massing.

Documentation on the property is presented in: review and compliance files

Prepared by: Vicki Benton, Snow Hill Citizens for Decent Housing, Inc.

John Ellen Treese 12/4/92
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

NR program concurrence: ☒ yes ☐ no ☐ not applicable

L. Anderson 12.21.93
Reviewer, NR program Date

gms

Survey No. WO-186

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT

I. Geographic Region:

- ☒ Eastern Shore (all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)
☐ Western Shore (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles,
Prince George's and St. Mary's)
☐ Piedmont (Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll,
Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)
☐ Western Maryland (Allegany, Garrett and Washington)

II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:

- ☐ Paleo-Indian 10000-7500 B.C.
☐ Early Archaic 7500-6000 B.C.
☐ Middle Archaic 6000-4000 B.C.
☐ Late Archaic 4000-2000 B.C.
☐ Early Woodland 2000-500 B.C.
☐ Middle Woodland 500 B.C. - A.D. 900
☐ Late Woodland/Archaic A.D. 900-1600
☐ Contact and Settlement A.D. 1570-1750
☐ Rural Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1680-1815
☐ Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870
☒ Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930
☐ Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present
☐ Unknown Period (☐ prehistoric ☐ historic)

III. Prehistoric Period Themes:

- ☐ Subsistence
☐ Settlement
☐ Political
☐ Demographic
☐ Religion
☐ Technology
☐ Environmental Adaption

IV. Historic Period Themes:

- ☒ Agriculture
☒ Architecture, Landscape Architecture,
and Community Planning
☐ Economic (Commercial and Industrial)
☐ Government/Law
☐ Military
☐ Religion
☐ Social/Educational/Cultural
☐ Transportation

V. Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Town

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): House

Known Design Source: None



WO-186

Cathy Wilson

215 E. Market St -
Snow Hill, MD.

front